

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

General Synod

of the

Evangelical and Reformed Church

Held in the

ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Cleveland, Ohio

June 27th, A. D. 1934

Including

The Minutes of the Special Meetings

of

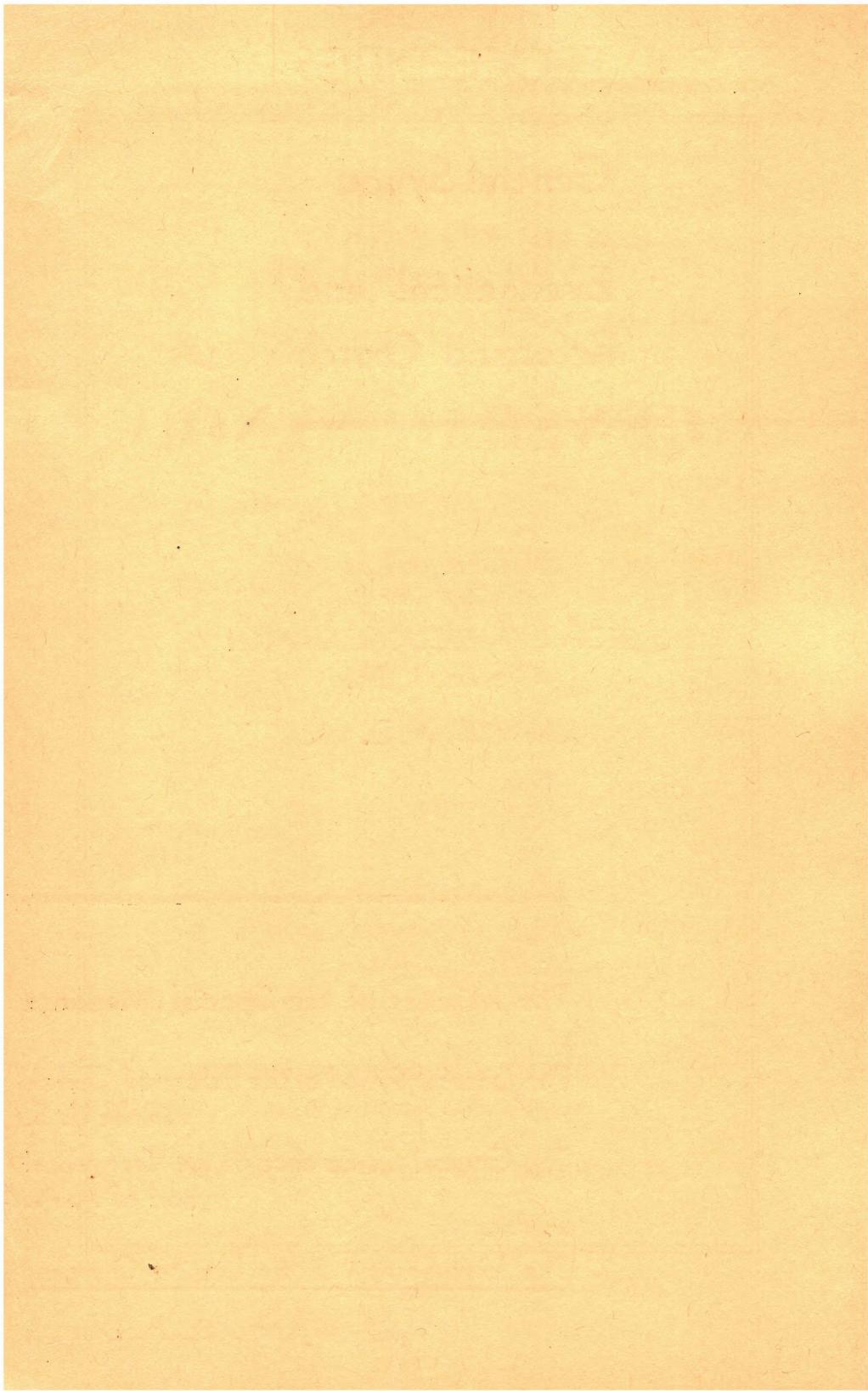
**The General Synod of the Reformed Church
in the U. S.**

**The General Conference of the Evangelical
Synod of N. A.**

and also of

The Joint Session of the Uniting Churches

held on June 26th, A. D. 1934



**THIRD
SPECIAL
MEETING**

of the

GENERAL SYNOD

of the

*Reformed Church
in the United States*



**EIGHTH REFORMED CHURCH
Willowdale, near West 25th Street**

and

**PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Starkweather and 14th Streets**

CLEVELAND, OHIO, JUNE 26, A. D., 1934

SERMON PREACHED AT THE OPENING OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

By the Rev. F. Wm. Leich, D.D., Dayton, Ohio

Ephesians 5: 25-27: *Even as Christ also loved the Church and gave himself up for it, etc.*

"I believe in the Holy Catholic Church; the Communion of Saints."

This day and hour is of inexpressible significance to all of us here gathered and to the Church which for the last time we represent as a distinct unit in Christendom. Anyone who has given earnest thought to the matter will at once recognize that any attempt to give utterance to the thoughts and emotions which surge through our minds and hearts in the brief time allotted us would be futile and not even desirable. Language, even of the expert, is not adequate to give expression to the feelings which are stirred both by the backward as well as by the forward look. To any one attempting to portray the past we would be inclined to say: "Our glorious history is made; let him who will read the records that are written; it will ever remain a sacred record." And to him who would foretell the future it might be said by way of warning that prophesying is not every man's part and that it implies more than knowledge of and clever arrangement of present facts. So then perhaps to recall the things that are fundamental to our idea of the Christian Church may help us the better to evaluate our history as we know it and to determine our future as we work at it. May we find in this real food for constructive thinking.

That the Christian Church is dying is widely claimed and proclaimed in this age. And it is true, though not as these self-constituted executioners imagine. The Church is always dying only to rise again to a larger and more fruitful life. It is, as some one has said: "divinely unfinished, for in it man is cooperating with God for the hastening of the fulfilment of his redemptive world purpose. Its unfinished condition is not defeat or despair, but the joy, the hope, the glory of the task. It is the work of measuring up to "the stature of the fullness of Christ," as Paul puts it. Our opportunity lies in the possibility of completion, and this is the function of our religion."

In this process, together with other religions, Christianity has ever been in danger of hardening about organization, polity, buildings, rituals, dogmas and so on. But in distinction from all other religions and in evidence of its superiority, and this is especially true of Protestantism, Christianity has broken the fetters again and again and walked forth into a new freedom of life. It has always proven itself alive by its freedom to act, grappling with the things that threatened to enslave and using them again as servants and instruments. The disposition among men to take the way of least resistance tends to bind us to policies and rituals, to books and dogmas. To free ourselves from such bondage or to maintain the freedom we have achieved requires more than ordinary courage; it demands a more costly ministry and a more sacrificial spirit than a comfortable age produces, as well as a Spirit-guided purpose. I want to believe and I do believe that we as a Church with a glorious history are today at the point of demonstrating just this thing. It seems to me that our heart must burn for the union of all Christendom, though the ultimate achievement seems so far, far off, when we consider that great good might come from it—spiritual, moral and material, in fact, a complete reconstruction of our civilization. Our own Reformed Church together with the Evangelical Synod is about to make its contribution toward this goal.

Let no one therefore belittle the effort, however much he may claim the right to criticize the method or the approach or to raise questions regarding the ultimate outcome.

Nowhere does the Christian religion grow out of purely natural soil. No one can become a Christian in and out of himself. For, as no other religion, the Christian religion is from beginning to end historical and rests upon facts, the knowledge of which comes only through communication and testimony. Therefore the Christian religion has been creative of a society as no other religion has ever been. Anyone who by the faith wrought by the Holy Spirit enters into personal fellowship with Jesus thereby also becomes part of a living whole which in Jesus finds head and center. And as surely as Christ offers himself to all men as the mediator of a fellowship with God, so he becomes also the mediator of a fellowship between those united with him. And, as among the twelve whom he chose surely not haphazardly but purposefully, he did not suppress the natural differences and peculiarities but rather transfigured and recreated them, so there is to be room for the same many-sidedness and differences in His society, the Church. True Apostolicity is one with true Catholicity—all-embracing power with universal compass. And the true Church will be able to receive into itself manifold differences and grant them their rightful place without detriment to the whole as long as the totality of apostolic testimony is its lifegiving power. But it is in danger of becoming a sect when one or the other apostolic emphasis becomes so dominant that only people who claim extraordinary knowledge or experience are permitted a place in it.

The nearest approach to the ideal is found in the early Christian Church recorded for us in the book of Acts. The history of the Church since that time witnesses to a continued falling short of attaining the ideal. Yet this is and has been the glory of its incompleteness, that so long as the Word is freely accessible as the source of lifegiving power and directing truth, the Church is ever receptive of and open to new growth and larger development. For a new humanity is its goal, a humanity which shall have lost nothing of all that with which God endowed it from the beginning; a new humanity in which all the possibilities of the divine creative purpose shall come to full fruitage and perfection.

This ethico-religious society, if I may term it so, is in the New Testament called the ecclesia, translated the Church. It resulted from the coming to earth and the ministry and work of Christ and has as its mission the establishment of the dominion of Christ forever—the mission of gathering men into a family and household of God, in which they shall be governed by the law of a supreme love to God and of an equal love for the brethren. We believe that it was a Church of this kind which Christ intended to found and which the apostles labored to establish. It is of this Church that Paul writes “even as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself up for it that He might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle nor any such thing; but that it should be holy, without blemish.” Of this Church believers throughout the ages have confessed “I believe in the holy, catholic church; the communion of saints.”

This Church must be made worthy and kept worthy, for He is worthy. It is a holy church, called into being not by the will of man but by the Spirit of God. Holy—for the Spirit from above who rules in it would make holy men, a communion of saints, people who are permeated and motivated by the power and life of that Spirit; a holy church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing. And of this Peter writes in most eloquent fashion, “Ye are an elect race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of God’s own possession, that ye may show forth the excellencies

of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." So we maintain that the chief characteristic of the church is holiness—not mere spirituality, or mere charity or love. "The Christian revelation," says Forsythe, "is that the spiritual and personal God is holy and only therefore eternal; so that its answering religion is the religion of the Holy Spirit. And the site and the source of that revelation, that gift, is the cross of Christ, as the crisis of God's righteous judgment, holy grace and new-creating conquest of the world. The supreme revelation of God is the holy; and the central meaning of the cross is less God's love than the holiness of it. And the great issue within Christianity is not between systems and doxies, but a battle for the holy as the one all-inclusive gift of Christ and for those ultimate powers and public features of Christianity which are indispensable to such revelation. Of this the Church is the one trustee."

This holy Church is the Christian Church, for Christ is its head and cornerstone, its master and Lord, its sure rock and foundation. The Word and the Gospel of Christ is the treasure it is to guard, the bread by which its members live, the salt wherewith it is salted and the light which it is to let shine, for the world.

It is one church. It is difficult to convince ourselves of this fact. Our human divisions have been so deepgoing and severe. We have even pleaded variety as a sign of life, which it is not. Variety does not indicate real life, but mere energy, mere vitality. The church begins with the individual but never ends there. And even that may be qualified when we recall that Christ came to redeem a race; it was a Church he saved. Believers are not one in consequence of being in Him, but in the very fact that He is. This has not yet appeared as an outward oneness in history, but there is an inner unity of the Gospel which will ultimately find by necessity a fitting outward expression.

It is also a catholic, universal Church. Israel of old was the covenant people. To its mind this meant the exclusion of all others, though the note of universality is not lacking in the Old Testament. Christ broke down the barriers and there is no doubt in the New Testament as to the universality of His church. The history of missions from Jerusalem down to the present attests to this.

This attempt at briefly setting forth the meaning and purpose of the Church in necessarily inadequate and broken sentences brings us face to face with the question—What are we in the Church? What does it ask and expect of us who claim to be members of it?

Clearly, the first requirement is a definite, living faith. To be a member of the Church of our Lord is not primarily a matter of a baptismal rite or of confirmation or of some form which expresses an experience or fact of filial relationship with God. In the nature of the case nothing is more indispensable to the relation and character of a true child than faith. Take away this faith and what we speak of as sonship is no longer worthy the name. Christ himself continually emphasizes the virtue and indispensableness of faith and equal prominence is given it in apostolic teaching. And this simply means that the inner disposition is the fundamental condition of salvation, for which no amount of external performance can be a substitute, and that the proper inner disposition is that spirit of sonship which naturally comes from a real acceptance of the message of God in Christ, who is the divine Word. This means more than mere intellectual assent, more than a certain knowledge. It denotes a practical positive relation and attitude of genuine selfcommittal to a divine person which the Heidelberg Catechism describes as a hearty trust. It is an act of selfcommittal to God as revealed in Christ. The foundation of this faith is the word of a positive Gospel, which means that it is a

theological one, though not systematic. It can never rest securely on the basis of a vague Christian sentiment.

Then also the Church asks of us evangelical obedience, which denotes obedience to the ethical and religious codes of the Gospel. As faith is an inward obedience it becomes the disposition to specific acts of obedience. And as it tends to lassitude in a man's will power not to go out upon the field of this world's affairs and grapple with actual conditions there, so faith, not issuing in appropriate lines of activity lacks the requisite of healthy growth, indeed even of subsistence. Faith is all-sufficient in the sense that it puts us at once into normal filial relation with God. But it would deny itself if it did not inspire to good works with the coming of opportunities for their performance.

And the issue of it all is service in love. It is that the Church asks and expects of every member not only for the sake of its own life and work, but for the sake of the members themselves. In this service is included not only every form of missionary, charitable and benevolent enterprise, but all that is necessary to the achievement of the social ideal of the Gospel of our Lord. We need to note with great concern that the Christian Church is engaged in a great battle, a mortal conflict with paganism in thought, conduct and religion. There can be no compromise between the spirit of the selfish world and the Gospel of a holy sacrificial love, between the obedience which is the first thing with Christ and the self-will which is first with the world. It is war. And though we feel sure that the social order evolved by selfishness can never be stronger than the moral order and society of Christ, we dare not fail on our part which Christ has committed to us for our age by ignoring each other or working at cross-purposes with our fellows in the same battle. And this calls upon the loving loyalty of each man and woman who has named the name of Christ for all the best that is in them and for all they are and have.

We as the Church must realize in a greater measure than ever before that the Church is facing a new situation and that it must quickly learn to so dispose and use its forces as to really and adequately measure up to the task. To the world a divided Church means a divided Christ, no matter how insistently we may assert that he is our common Lord and Master and that the cause we are engaged in is a common cause. Is not perhaps one of the reasons for the sense of weakness in the present hour to be found in the fact that the Church has contented itself so largely with the commonplace motives and objectives and has failed in its appeal to the highest and best that is to be sought. "The day is done when we can approach the great problems of the time with a sectarian mind or face universal issues in the spirit of a religious group."

The ideal set before us is still afar off. Universal ideals always are. But it is coming nearer. The important thing is that we keep the ideal ever clearly before us, that it may be an evergrowing challenge to the best we are and have for its achievement. While we speak of this day as the day of the last General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States with deep and varying emotions, mostly of sadness, shall we not quickly learn to think of this last joyfully as the necessary step to the new first of tomorrow and all its larger promises. Do we perhaps see the end of the old, accustomed fellowship and spirit we have come to cherish, let us note also that the Christian Church is always less concerned for itself than for God's cause and reign with the determination that if what is worth having may be better secured in the new and larger fellowship than in the smaller, as long as it remains a Church of the Word which cares everything for the Gospel of its Christ, we are ready and willing gladly to go the whole way. Let us not be afraid of actually

realizing the ideal which we thought we had seen and which we have long talked about, lest the strength and power and glory of it go to those who have a poorer Gospel but put it in more effective form. May our love for the Church be the reflection of the love of Christ for it, who gave Himself up for its cleansing, that it might be glorious not having spot or wrinkle, that it should be holy and without blemish.

Minutes of the Special Meeting Tuesday Morning, June 26, 1934

Organization

The Third Special Meeting of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States was opened, in accordance with the provision of the Call, on Tuesday, June 26, A. D., 1934, in the Eighth Reformed Church, Cleveland, Ohio, at 10 A. M.

The Religious Services were in charge of the President, Dr. Henry J. Christman. Dr. Paul S. Leinbach read the scripture lesson, 1 Cor. 12: 1-12, and offered prayer.

The opening sermon, based on Eph. 5: 25-27, and found on the opening pages of these Minutes, was preached by Dr. F. Wm. Leich, who also offered the prayer constituting the Synod. At 10:45 the Synod was called to order for the transaction of business by the President.

The Roll Clerk, Rev. A. R. Tosh, announced the presence of a quorum, constituted as follows:

141 Ministers from 56 Classes, 6 Synods;
93 Elders from 46 Classes, 6 Synods;
or a total of 234 delegates, supplemented by 60 Advisory Members.

The Bar of the House was defined as the main auditorium of the Church.

The Call, contained in the Blue Book, was on motion unanimously approved, as follows:

CALL FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES AUTHORIZED IN THE PLAN OF THE UNION

The General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States will convene in Special Session in the Eighth Reformed Church, Willowdale, near West 25th Street, Cleveland, Ohio, Rev. H. J. Rohrbaugh, D.D., pastor, on Tuesday, June 26, A. D., 1934, at 10 A. M., to attend to the following items of business:

Item I. (a) To receive the official report from the Stated Clerk of the General Synod of the actions taken by the Classes on the Plan of Union for the Evangelical Synod of North America and the Reformed Church in the United States.

(b) To receive the official report from the Chairman of the Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union.

(c) To take action on these preceding reports.

Item II. To receive and take action on concise reports requisite to the consummation of the union, from the officers, Boards, commissions, committees and agencies of the General Synod.

Item III. To transact such other business as may be necessary for consummating the organic union of the two merging Churches.

*By order of the General Synod,
Philadelphia, Pa., May 2, 1934.*

HENRY J. CHRISTMAN, President
J. RAUCH STEIN, Stated Clerk

Accompanying Meetings

1. The *Joint Session* of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the U. S. and of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America will be held on June 26 at 7 P. M. in the Zion Church of the Evangelical Synod, corner of Branch and West 14th Streets, Cleveland, Ohio, Rev. Oscar E. Wittlinger, pastor.
2. In this Session, according to Article 12 of the Plan of Union, the final report of the action of the Churches on the Plan of Union will be made. By joint resolution the union of the Churches will be declared as duly effected.
3. Following the Joint Session, at 8 o'clock P. M., in the same church, the Holy Communion will be celebrated, in which the delegates of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the U. S., of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America, and of the proposed General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, and the visiting ministers and elders, are invited to take part.
4. The meeting of the delegates for constituting the *General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church* will be held on Wednesday, June 27, at 9 o'clock A. M. in the Zion Church of the Evangelical Synod. The Synod will be constituted by the election of officers after which such business as is submitted to it will be transacted.

GEORGE W. RICHARDS, *Chairman,*
Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union.

The Program and Schedule was presented by the Secretary of the Executive Committee, Dr. William E. Lampe, and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON ORDER OF BUSINESS AND BLUE BOOK

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—Your Executive Committee, whose duties include the preparing of the Order of Business and of the Blue Book for the meeting of the General Synod, has prepared these.

The Blue Book, which contains all reports that could be secured in time to be printed, has been published by Dr. J. Rauch Stein, Stated Clerk.

We submit the Order of Business for this special meeting of the General Synod and recommend its adoption. We further recommend that after adoption a two-thirds vote be necessary to make changes in this Order. Further, we recommend that there be a five minute limit in debate, except by special permission of the General Synod.

It should be understood that the time fixed for each item in this Agenda is an Order of the Day. If that item is not completed by the time for the next Order, it shall be postponed until the next open period. It is hoped that not all of the time allotted will be required for the several items and that the General Synod can run ahead of the schedule and adjourn as soon as possible after four o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

HENRY J. CHRISTMAN, *Chairman*
WILLIAM E. LAMPE, *Secretary*

ORDER OF BUSINESS

JUNE 26

MORNING SESSION

A.M.

Item I of the Call

- Report from Stated Clerk of Action by Classes on Plan of Union
11:00—Report from Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union
Action on these Reports

Item II of the Call

- 11:30—REPORTS:
President, on the State of the Church
Stated Clerk, items referred to him, archives
Treasurer
Executive Committee

P.M.

- 12:05—ITEMS FROM THE GENERAL SYNOD, SYNODS AND CLASSES

 - Committee on Minutes of the General Synod
 - Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union
 - Actions of the Classes on Constitutional Amendments
 - Committee on Minutes of the Synods
 - Committee on Minutes of the Classes
 - Committee on Overtures

- ## 12:20—Necrology

P M

- 1:45—REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, REPRESENTATIVES AND
DELEGATES**

- Vacancy and Supply
Historical Society
Publication of Zwingli's Latin Works
National Lord's Day Alliance
Counselling Commission, Y. M. C. A.
American Bible Society
Alliance of Reformed Churches

- ## Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America

- 2:15—UNFINISHED ITEMS AND SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY**

- ## 2:30—THE BOARDS AND OTHER AGENCIES

- Board of Orphans' Homes
Reformed Churchmen's League**

- ## Reformed Churchmen's L. Woman's Missionary Soc.

- Woman's Missionary Society
Board of Home Missions

- 2:55— Board of Home Missions
Social Service

- Social Service
Board of Foreign

- 3:15— Board of Foreign Missions
3:35— Committee to Amortize the

- ## **Board of Christian Education**

- 4:00— Board of Minis

- Special Committee of I

Item III of the Call

- 4:20—THE BUDGET FOR OUR WORK IN THE NEW CHURCH
4:30—Closing Services
 Adjournment
6:30—Delegates assemble at the Pilgrim Congregational Church for the procession to the Zion Church of the Evangelical Synod.
*7:00—*Joint Session* with the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America—Zion Church of the Evangelical Synod, corner of West 14th Street and Branch Avenue, Cleveland.

ATTENDANCE OF DELEGATES

Report of the Roll Clerk

I. Eastern Synod

1. EAST PENNSYLVANIA CLASSIS—Revs. Harvey I. Crow, Harry J. Ehret, Frank H. Blatt, L. V. Hetrick; Elders R. S. Hahn, A. D. Wanemaker, A. R. Ruch, Horace A. Butz.
2. LEBANON CLASSIS—Revs. David Lockart, K. Otis Spessard, W. D. Happel; Elders W. U. Himmelberger, Hiram G. Newgard.
3. PHILADELPHIA CLASSIS—Revs. J. G. Kerschner, Paul S. Leinbach, Aaron R. Tosh, John Lentz, Albert G. Peters, A. A. Hartman; Elders A. Calvin Frantz, Milton Warner, Howard S. Welker, Bruce A. Metzger, H. N. Willauer, Stephen J. Smith.
4. LANCASTER CLASSIS—Revs. Daniel G. Glass, C. Geo. Bachman, David Dunn, John F. Frantz, Harry E. Shepardson, Chas. D. Spotts; Elders John A. Isele, J. Q. Truxal, W. L. Jacoby, John G. Fritchey, G. Willis Hartman, Nelson Dyson.
5. EAST SUSQUEHANNA CLASSIS—Revs. A. Augustus Welsh, Alvin F. Dietz, Herman J. Naftzinger; Elder James M. Schrope.
6. WEST SUSQUEHANNA CLASSIS—Revs. I. S. Ditzler, G. A. Fred Griesing, W. C. Rittenhouse; Elders E. E. Ardery, J. H. Eisenhauer, Howard T. Struble.
7. TOHICKON CLASSIS—Revs. Theo. C. Brown, Alfred N. Sayres, A. H. Schuler; Elders Charles A. Lippincott, Joseph K. Musselman, Elmer E. Althouse.
8. GOSHIENHOPPEN CLASSIS—Revs. Calvin M. DeLong, Howard A. Alt-house; Elder Edward S. Fretz.
9. LEHIGH CLASSIS—Revs. George W. Richards, Paul Reid Pontius; Elders Frank A. Arner, Walter F. Wink.
10. SCHUYLKILL CLASSIS—Revs. E. B. Messner, Adam E. Schellhase; Elder Thomas J. Koch.
11. WYOMING CLASSIS—Revs. Clark W. Heller, E. Franklin Faust; Elders Wm. Koch, Fred E. Hess.
12. READING CLASSIS—Revs. Lee M. Erdman, Thos. H. Leinbach, Dallas R. Krebs; Elders Charles S. Adams, Wayne K. Leinbach.
13. EASTERN HUNGARIAN CLASSIS—Rev. Geza Takaro.
14. NEW YORK CLASSIS—Revs. Carl H. Gramm, Fred W. Englemann; Elders Martin Carle, John Christ.
15. GERMAN PHILADELPHIA CLASSIS—Revs. Otto M. Pioch, August W. Klingner; Elder John Schmidt.

II. Ohio Synod

1. CENTRAL OHIO CLASSIS—Revs. F. W. Leich, John F. Winter, Geo. W. Good, Frank R. Zartman; Elders Wm. A. Meyers, A. O. Young.

2. EAST OHIO CLASSIS—Revs. Tillman W. Hoernemann, David A. Sellers, Wm. F. Kissel, H. Nevin Kerst, Henry N. Smith; Elders John B. Mohler, Geo. W. Ziegler, John S. Garman.

3. NORTHEAST OHIO CLASSIS—Revs. Albert L. Scherry, Henry Schmidt, Carl F. Heyl, Nevin B. Mathes, Frederick Mayer, Geo. A. Snyder; Elders S. W. Baughman, C. A. Weiser, G. Fred Pfeiffer, E. E. McNeely, A. G. Haas, Frank L. Oesch.

4. NORTHWEST OHIO CLASSIS—Revs. C. T. Roeck, Alfred Grether, S. J. Royer, G. T. N. Beam, H. F. Hilgeman, D. E. Raiser; Elders W. G. Kuhlmann, T. R. Groman, John Schlatter, John Schaub.

5. SOUTHWEST OHIO CLASSIS—Revs. George Longaker, Henry J. Christman, H. Grady Shoffner; Elders Geo. B. Wetzel, F. M. Staver.

6. WEST OHIO CLASSIS—Revs. E. E. Koepf, Harlan J. Miller; Elder W. A. Circle.

7. LAKESIDE HUNGARIAN CLASSIS—Rev. John B. Szeghy; Elder Gustave Kovacs.

III. Synod of the Northwest

1. SHEBOYGAN CLASSIS—Revs. Paul Grosshuesch, Paul Graeser; Elder William Johanning.

2. MILWAUKEE CLASSIS—Revs. Henry G. Settlage, George Grether, Richard Rettig; Elder F. H. Thiel.

3. MINNESOTA CLASSIS—Rev. Julius Berkenkamp; Elder Gustave Kiesau.

4. NEBRASKA CLASSIS—Rev. August Dumin.

5. URSINUS CLASSIS—Revs. John Neuenschwander, A. A. Depping; Elder C. Lohman.

6. SOUTH DAKOTA CLASSIS—Rev. Klaus J. Stuebbe.

7. PORTLAND-OREGON CLASSIS—Rev. Geo. F. Zinn; Elder Henry Raz.

8. MANITOBA CLASSIS—Elder C. D. Maurer.

9. EUREKA CLASSIS—Rev. G. H. E. Kaempchen; Elder Adolph Boschee.

10. NORTH DAKOTA CLASSIS—None.

11. EDMONTON CLASSIS—Rev. Chas. H. Reppert.

12. CALIFORNIA CLASSIS—Rev. E. F. Evenmeyer.

IV. Pittsburgh Synod

1. WESTMORELAND CLASSIS—Revs. Lawrence E. Bair, J. Harvey Mickley, Frederick C. Seitz, Harvey W. Black; Elders James Hughes, A. L. Leonard.

2. CLARION CLASSIS—Revs. Joseph J. Gilbert, M. N. George; Elder L. D. Weber.

3. ST. PAUL'S CLASSIS—Revs. W. M. Diefenderfer, Paul J. Dundore; Elders J. Fred Christman, Fred P. Miller.

4. SOMERSET CLASSIS—Revs. Geo. L. Roth, Frank D. Witmer; Elders Wilson Friedline, Josiah N. Lint.

5. ALLEGHENY CLASSIS—Revs. Henry L. Krause, E. Roy Corman, J. H. String; Elders W. A. Ashbaugh, E. E. Wible.

6. CENTRAL HUNGARIAN CLASSIS—Rev. Barnabas Dienes; Elder Paul Teglassy.

7. WEST NEW YORK CLASSIS—Revs. Herman E. Schnatz, Albert A. Meussling; Elders Leonard Fischer, James Tyler.

V. Synod of the Potomac

1. ZION'S CLASSIS—Revs. Edward V. Strasbaugh, Oliver S. Hartman, J. Kern McKee; Elders John L. Gerber, Charles B. Bishop.

2. MARYLAND CLASSIS—Revs. Guy P. Bready, J. Stewart Hartman, Felix B. Peck; Elders Eugene A. Spessard, John V. Alexander, Harry Brindle.

3. MERCERSBURG CLASSIS—Revs. John C. Sanders, Samuel E. Lobach; Elders William Hull, Geo. M. Crider.
4. VIRGINIA CLASSIS—Revs. Charles E. Robb, Horace R. Lequear.
5. NORTH CAROLINA CLASSIS—Revs. A. O. Leonard, Jacob C. Leonard, Banks J. Peeler; Elders Clarence Clapp, Edgar Whitener.
6. GETTYSBURG CLASSIS—Revs. Harry H. Hartman, Edwin M. Sando, Howard E. Sheely; Elders Clinton S. Fickes, Jennings B. Hartman, Andrew R. Brodbeck.
7. CARLISLE CLASSIS—Rev. Charles R. Hartman; Elder Samuel E. Basehore.
8. JUNIATA CLASSIS—Revs. J. Albert Eyler, Oliver H. Sensenig, Frederick D. Eyster; Elders Daniel W. Beam, Percival D. Aurandt.
9. BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CLASSIS—Revs. Samuel A. Troxell, Julius F. Grauel; Elder Otto Schmidt.

VI. Synod of the Mid-West

1. FT. WAYNE CLASSIS—Revs. Frank H. Rupnow, Richard B. Meckstroth; Elder Clifton E. Striker.
2. CHICAGO CLASSIS—Revs. Leonard S. Hegnauer, William F. Naefe.
3. IOWA CLASSIS—Rev. Emanuel Jassman.
4. LINCOLN CLASSIS—Rev. Ernest Gander
5. INDIANAPOLIS CLASSIS—Revs. E. G. Homrighausen, W. E. Huckeriede; Elders Edward Dirks, George C. Iske.
6. MISSOURI-KANSAS CLASSIS—Rev. Luther L. Hassenpflug; Elder William Finklang.
7. KENTUCKY CLASSIS—Rev. H. W. Haberkamp; Elder Philip Gagel.
8. ZION'S HUNGARIAN CLASSIS—Rev. Julius M. Hanko; Elder Gedeon Tukacs.

Under Item I of the Call the Stated Clerk read the Official Report of the Actions taken by the Classes on the Plan of Union. On motion it was received as a record of fact and referred to the new General Synod for information as follows:

REPORT OF THE ACTIONS OF CLASSES ON THE PLAN OF UNION

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: The following is a summarized record of the vote of the 59 Classes of the Reformed Church in the United States on the Plan of Union with the Evangelical Synod of North America, adopted by the General Synod of 1932 at Akron, Ohio, and sent down to each Classis for its adoption or rejection.

- 51 Classes voted to adopt the Plan of Union.
3 Classes voted to adopt it with specific conditions.
4 Classes rejected the Plan.
1 Classis declined to take action.

— 59 —

It may be further stated that 3 of the 51 Classes voting to adopt the Plan expressed their desire that the word "and" in the proposed name be replaced by a hyphen, viz: Lebanon, California, and Baltimore-Washington. One of the 51 expressed the desire for a more satisfactory name, (Reading). Eight of the 51 expressed their desire that the name be "The Evangelical Reformed Church," (East Pennsylvania, East Susquehanna, Goshenhoppen, Portland-Oregon, Zion's, Virginia, Juniata and Missouri-Kansas).

Forty-eight of the 51 seemingly adopted the Plan unanimously. In two of the 51 Classes there were small votes cast against it (Milwaukee and Fort Wayne). In one of these 51 Classes the vote was 31 to 24, (Sheboygan).

Supplementary Statement

The 51 Classes that voted to adopt the Plan of Union are:

East Pennsylvania, Lebanon, Philadelphia, Lancaster, East Susquehanna, West Susquehanna, Tohickon, Goshenhoppen, Lehigh, Schuylkill, Wyoming, Reading, Eastern Hungarian;

Central Ohio, East Ohio, Northeast Ohio, Northwest Ohio, Southwest Ohio, West Ohio, Lakeside Hungarian;

Nebraska, Portland-Oregon, Manitoba, Edmonton, California;

Westmoreland, Clarion, St. Paul's, Somerset, Allegheny, Central Hungarian;

Zion's, Maryland, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina, Gettysburg, Carlisle, Juniata, Baltimore-Washington;

New York, West New York, German Philadelphia, Heidelberg;

Chicago, Iowa, Lincoln, Indianapolis, Missouri-Kansas, Kentucky, Zion Hungarian.

The three Classes voting to adopt with specific conditions are: Sheboygan, Manitoba and California.

The four Classes rejecting the Plan are Minnesota, South Dakota, Eureka and North Dakota.

The Classis declining to take action is Ursinus.

A complete record of the action taken by each one of the 59 Classes to whom the Plan of Union was referred has been filed in the Archives.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Rauch Stein, Stated Clerk.

Dr. George W. Richards, Chairman, read the Official Report of the Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union. Its two recommendations were severally adopted and the Report finally adopted as a whole.

In conformity with the provisions of the first Resolution of the Report, the President of the General Synod, Dr. Henry J. Christman made official declaration that the Plan of Union had been properly adopted. The Report of the Commission here follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON CLOSER RELATIONS AND CHURCH UNION TO THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

To the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States:

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: Your Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union begs leave to submit the following report:

The Plan of Union of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America, presented by your Commission to the General Synod of Akron, June 21-28, 1932, was unanimously adopted by a rising vote and was referred to the Classes for their approval.

Your Commission has received official information from the Stated Clerk of the General Synod that fifty-four Classes voted in favor of the Plan; four Classes voted against it, one Classis did not take action. Inasmuch as a two-thirds vote of the Classes, that is the affirmative vote of forty Classes, is required for the adoption of the Plan of Union, and fifty-four Classes have approved the Plan, this General Synod now assembled in special session is authorized to declare that the plan has been legally adopted by the Reformed Church in the United States.

According to Article XII of the Plan of Union, "When the Plan has been approved by regular action of the two negotiating Churches, the President and the Secretary or Stated Clerk of the Supreme Judicatory of each Church shall report the action to the Commissions on Union of the negotiating Churches, who shall then request the officers of the Su-

preme Judicatories to call a special meeting of each Judicatory at the same time and place."

In compliance with the favorable action of the Districts and the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America and of the General Synod and the Classes of the Reformed Church in the United States, the Commissions on Union of the two Churches have requested the officers of each Supreme Judicatory to call a special meeting at Cleveland, Ohio, June 26, 1934; the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod to meet in Zion Evangelical Church and the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States in the Eighth Reformed Church.

Your Commission offers the following resolutions for your consideration and action:

RESOLVED, FIRST, that the President of the General Synod assembled in special session declare the Plan of Union of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America regularly approved and adopted;

SECOND, that the Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union be requested to bear the greetings of the President and the members of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States to the President and the members of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America now assembled in Zion Church of the Evangelical Synod, and to announce to that honorable body that the officers and members of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States are prepared to meet with the officers and members of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America in Zion Church of the Evangelical Synod on the evening of this day, June 26, at seven o'clock, in accordance with the provision of Article XII of the Plan of Union, which is as follows: "In joint session of the Judicatories the final report of the Churches on the Plan of Union shall be made. The Supreme Judicatories of the Churches shall declare by joint resolution that the union of the churches is duly effected at that time."

Respectfully submitted,

*George W. Richards, Chairman
Jacob C. Leonard, Secretary
Charles E. Miller
Henry J. Christman
Emory L. Coblenz
D. J. Snyder
Reuben J. Butz*

Dr. Richards, Chairman, in behalf of the Joint Commission on Union, offered the following special recommendations for expediting the business of the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

In order to expedite the work of the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, the Joint Commission on Union recommends that each of the supreme Judicatories now assembled submit the names of eight members who are at the same time regularly elected delegates of the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, to serve as nominating committee throughout the sessions of said Synod.

Furthermore, the Joint Commission recommends that three Vice-Presidents be elected, one minister and two laymen.

Respectfully submitted,

George W. Richards, Chairman.

The original motion to adopt was amended to authorize the President of the Synod to appoint the Nominating Committee; with the added instruction that the President himself be a member of the same. The motion as thus amended was forthwith adopted.

Later in the session, President Christman announced the members appointed to serve on the Joint Committee on Nominations as follows: Revs. Paul J. Dundore, Paul S. Leinbach, Paul R. Pontius, August Dumin, Henry J. Christman (by action of the General Synod); Elders J. Q. Truxal, Edward Dirks and A. L. Leonard.

The Secretary of the Commission, Dr. Jacob L. Leonard, presented the Report of the Committee of Lawyers of the Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union. Its three resolutions were severally adopted and ordered to be entered upon the Minutes. The Report is as follows:

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE OF LAWYERS ON RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION

WHEREAS the Plan of Union of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America has been adopted by each in accordance with its own constitution, and the supreme judicatories of the two Churches are to meet this day in joint session for the purpose of effecting the union:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States is now ready to meet with the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America for the purpose of declaring by joint resolution of the two bodies that the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America are then and thereby united in one body;

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that when such union shall have been effected, due regard shall be had to those reservations in the Plan of Union which relate to the rights of property, real and personal, of each constituent Church and the continuance for awhile of their respective subordinate judicatories, Classes and districts;

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that the need be recognized for the continuance of the corporate existence of the Evangelical Synod of North America until the Evangelical and Reformed Church shall have adopted a constitution and by-laws in accordance with the Plan of Union or until, when authorized by a two-thirds vote of the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, it shall have become incorporated, at which time all property and rights held by the constituent churches or by such corporation shall be conveyed, transferred and delivered, to the united church or to the corporation into which it may have been formed; but, in the meantime, the said property and rights are to be held and enjoyed by said constituent churches in harmony with the spirit and purpose of the Plan of Union and in the way in which the united church will be most aided and, in so far as the law of the creation of each constituent church will permit, in compliance with the action of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

Respectfully submitted,

D. J. Snyder, Chairman.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

D. J. Snyder

R. E. Butz

E. L. Coblenz

Reformed Church

J. W. Mueller

W. Z. Hazelbeck

H. W. Schultheis

Evangelical Synod

These resolutions were referred to the General Synod through the Chairman of the Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union.

George W. Richards.

Due to the physical disability of the pastor of the Eighth Reformed Church, Dr. H. J. Rohrbaugh, who was able to be present only for a brief period, Dr. Henry S. Gekeler, in his stead, at this time extended a welcome to the Synod.

Because of the limited capacity of the Eighth Reformed Church, the General Synod, by special resolution, voted to accept an invitation to convene in the Pilgrim Congregational Church for the afternoon session, opening at 1:45 P. M.

Item II of the Call, the next Order of the Day, was now considered.

The Report of the President on the State of the Church was read by Dr. Christman, and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

To present a discerning report of the state of the Church at this time is a baffling task. The conditions under which we are living and serving are very unusual. Material values crashed all over the country and indeed throughout the nations. Heart-breaking descriptions of the effects of our financial conditions upon individuals, business concerns and religious organizations need not be recited here. But our direst tragedies are not in the realm of the material but rather in the realm of the moral and the spiritual.

This is a time that tries men's souls. Some have stood the test and have been enriched. There has been probably more sacrificial spirit manifest in the work of the Church during the past two years than in the brighter years which preceded when the outward activities of the Church were lauded and praised. Some have learned through experience that material things are transient and that human strength is inadequate and so have been brought to fuller reliance on God.

On the other hand, many have lost heart and interest and have taken either an attitude of indifference or an attitude of defeat. It appears that these times of human extremity have not brought the deepening of the spiritual life for which many hoped and prayed. Theoretically the life of the Church should not be dependent on her environment but rather the environment should be made by the life of the Church. There is a faith that overcomes the world and there is a faith that is overcome by the world. It is not clear that the Church of any other period would have done better under the same circumstances but we may well make humble confession to God that we have come far short of what He had a right to expect of us.

It has been painful to note a continual decrease in the membership of the Reformed Church in the United States for the past 5 or 6 years. It is now a joy to report that during the past year there has been a net gain of 208 members. This seems to be negligible but it appears more important when it is stated that the year preceding witnessed a net loss of 1,281. This net gain is made more by the decrease of the losses as compared to the preceding year than by the actual relative gains in additions. It is a pleasure also to say that there has been a net gain in the enrollment of the Sunday schools of 1764. This brings the enrollment of the Sunday schools to about three thousand more than the membership of the Church. This is a hopeful aspect.

The financial support of the Boards of the Church has decreased very greatly. During the year 1933 this support was only about a half of what it was five years ago. The necessity of reducing the current work in ac-

cordance with the decrease of the support has brought with it a tragic loss in the working power of the Church. While the Boards and the Executive Committee reduced their working budgets heroically it seemed impossible in some instances to keep pace with the rapidly decreasing support they were receiving. In the case of the Boards of Missions, this added to their already large indebtedness. Love of the Church and trust in her readiness and ability to provide had led these Boards to advance the work in their respective fields beyond their current income in which venture the financial crash caught us as it did the business world.

It appears that the bottom has been reached and that there is a slight improvement in the contributions to the several enterprises of the Church. Confidence and courage are becoming more evident. Efforts have been made to amortize the indebtedness of the Boards of Missions. All things considered we should be encouraged with the progress that has been made in these vitally important endeavors. The heart of the Church should be stirred and with a confident spirit we should move forward both in removing the handicap of indebtedness and in increasing the current financial support of all the enterprises of the Church.

The services rendered by the Executive Committee and by the four Boards are presented to the General Synod in their respective reports and are to be found in the Blue Book. The Woman's Missionary Society has carried forward its splendid work apparently less diminished either in spirit or in efficiency than other agencies of the Church. The Churchmen's League has made the very commendable growth of 35% in chapters and 40% in membership. This organization promises much for the development of the man power in the service of the Church.

There has been a manifest development in the life and spirit of the Church. Two years ago we were all but dazed as we faced the financial crisis. Under the strain attitudes were affected. But we are coming to better understand the conditions under which we are living and are adapting ourselves to them. A finer confidence in the Church and in each other is apparent. Relying upon God we are growing more confident that the future holds good things in store. There is reason to believe that the future will reveal yet greater evidences of spiritual unity and a mightier motivation in the service of the Kingdom.

The cultivation of the spiritual life is a most vital concern. All things else depend upon it; the whole life of the Church is but the expression of it. Committees on Evangelism have been chosen in almost all the Synods and Classes and they are rendering a very constructive service. They should receive from the General Synod the largest possible assistance in their work of leading our congregations in their best efforts in securing new members, restoring those who are indifferent and in cultivating the Christian life of all. The generation of spiritual power in the Church should claim the best thought of the General Synod and the responsibility for its promotion should be definitely assigned.

During these two years 52 of our faithful ministers and many faithful elders have been called out of this life. Their names now appear on the roll of the Church Triumphant. Their services abide with us. Special mention may be made of Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew, former President of General Synod and Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, Dr. James M. Mullan, Superintendent of the Department of the East of the Board of Home Missions, Dr. Adolph Krampe, Professor in the Mission House Theological Seminary, Dr. A. E. Dahlmann, former President of General Synod and Professor in Mission House Theological Seminary, and Rev. Jacob F. Snyder who attained the unusual age of 100 years and 8 days. For the lives of all this long list of faithful ministers and elders who have gone from us we give thanks to God and courageously take up the tasks they

left, praying that we may be faithful and that by the grace of God we may be strong.

This special meeting of the General Synod brings us to a very unique experience. We are about to unite with another communion of the Christian Church. We have been conferring with other denominations relative to Church Union for more than half a century. We are now about to prove that we are not only in favor of Church Union but also in favor of uniting. This is a tremendously important step. This will be the last session of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States. A union is to be formed, lives are to be blended, a great united Church is to listen as one to the voice of our one Lord and Master. We believe He has a larger life for us to live and a larger service for us to do. The most important thing of all is that in the Evangelical and Reformed Church we shall crown Jesus Lord of all. If we actually do this there can be no failure. One thing especially should stir our souls and that is a deep sense of our own unworthiness and a most overwhelming desire to come into this union at our best. To this end we must consecrate ourselves anew to the great Head of the Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry J. Christman.

The report of the Stated Clerk was read by Dr. Stein and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: Your Stated Clerk takes pleasure in reporting, with requisite brevity, that the regular duties of his office, as they are listed on pages 20 to 25 of the Minutes of the General Synod for 1932, have again been faithfully discharged to the best of his ability.

All special instructions given him by the last General Synod have also received his careful attention. In the discharge of the constantly increasing duties of this office, it is fitting that appreciative record be included of the services, for the past ten years, of its interested, capable and courteous secretary, Miss Helen B. Leech.

Since the last Triennial Meeting, the most important increase he has been able to make to the Synod's Archives, is a bound set of the Reformed Church Review, including the volumes of the Reformed Church Bulletin from 1917 to 1932.

Finally he desires, at this historic meeting, to express his deep gratitude to the Ever-living Head of the Church for the privilege of completing his 25th year of unbroken service, as the Stated Clerk of the General Synod in the dearly beloved church of his fathers, this Reformed Church in the United States.

Sincerely yours,

J. Rauch Stein.

Philadelphia, Pa., June 21, 1934.

The report of the Treasurer, as found in the Blue Book, was read in summary and adopted. Synod took special action appealing to the Classes, reported in arrears on their Contingent Fund Apportionments, to meet these obligations. The reports is as follows:

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: I herewith submit my report as Treasurer of the General Synod for the period from January 1, 1932 to December 31, 1933.

Balance January 1, 1932, as reported to the General Synod..... \$16,159.56
Receipts on Contingent Fund Apportionment (See itemized statement)*

Interest on Bank Balance 114.08
Sundry Receipts 10.00

National Service Commission Fund 315.40

Exchange of Checks (see contra under Expenditures)..... 1,270.98

Parkway Trust Company balance January 1, 1932..... \$12,249.09
37½% received during 1932 and 1933 5,741.77

Balance in Parkway Trust Company December 31, 1933. \$6,507.32

Expenditures as below** 63,891.97

Balance (see Statement *** below)..... \$16,325.21

MILTON WARNER, *Treasurer*

		Deficit from 1929	Receipts	Balance due
Eastern Synod.....		\$2,399 99		\$2,399 99
Potomac Synod.....		1,618 60	\$262 23	1,356 37
Totals.....		\$4,018 59	\$262 23	\$3,756 36

SYNOD	CONTINGENT			RECEIPTS			BALANCE DUE 1932 & 1933
	Due from 1930 & 1931	1932	1933	1932	in 1933	1933	
Eastern.....	\$3,513 77	\$17,445 84	\$10,427 74	\$16,495 69	\$470 71	\$9,337 99	\$5,082 96
Ohio.....	1,005 83	7,132 08	4,282 60	6,035 63	1,414 93	3,510 78	1,459 17
Northwest.....	1,756 40	3,129 60	1,894 03	2,891 04	755 08	1,201 78	1,932 13
Pittsburgh.....	1,876 33	3,216 36	1,926 97	2,450 08	648 40	1,213 26	2,707 92
Potomac.....	252 00	6,615 48	3,965 76	6,347 48	.....	3,643 07	742 69
German East.....	1,818 76	1,777 80	1,054 77	1,300 00	151 13	263 15	2,937 05
Mid-West.....	.....	2,406 60	1,448 13	2,406 60	.....	1,448 13	.....
Total.....	\$10,223 09	\$41,723 76	\$25,000 00	\$37,926 52†	\$3,440 25	\$20,718 16	\$14,861 92
				3,440 25			
				20,718 16			
				262 23			

†\$37,926 52

16 62 Canadian Exchange

\$37,909 90

*\$62,347 16

**ITEMIZED STATEMENT OF EXPENSES

Alliance of Reformed Churches—Appropriation.....	\$1,359 50
Chaplains (appropriation).....	775 00
Federal Council of Churches (appropriation).....	6,500 00
Faith and Order (appropriation).....	100 00
Amortization Committee (expenses).....	125 34
Closer Union Commission (expenses).....	472 24
Federal Council of Churches (expenses).....	600 47
General Synod Committee Chairmen (expenses).....	9 86
Missionary and Stewardship Chairmen (expenses).....	3 50
Seal and Escutcheon (expenses).....	4 50
Blue Book printed.....	1,693 13
General Synod Minutes printed.....	3,322 72
Statistical Blanks printed.....	307 28

General Synod, Akron—Traveling Expenses, etc.....	\$788 8,
Clerical Aid.....	3,368 00
Stated Clerk Salary.....	6,700 04
Assistant Stated Clerk Salary.....	275 00
Treasurer's Salary.....	200 00
Stated Clerk—Traveling Expenses.....	266 61
Canadian Discount†.....	16 62
Furniture and Fixtures.....	142 18
Government Tax on Checks.....	8 26
Postage.....	191 19
Miscellaneous Office Expense.....	668 79
Telephone and Telegrams.....	180 25
Rent.....	840 00
National Service Commission for Chateau Thierry.....	200 00
	<hr/>
Board Home Missions Note.....	\$2,881 85†
Miscellaneous Exchange.....	1,270 98
Executive Committee on Contingent Fund.....	30,619 79 34,772 62
	<hr/>
	\$63,891 97

†Note on Amount retained by Parkway Trust Company on Board of Home Mission Debt.

Balance in Parkway Trust Company December 31, 1933.....	\$6,507 32
Balance in Market Street National December 31, 1933.....	9,817 89
	<hr/>
	***\$16,325 21

The balance in the Market Street National Bank includes \$410.85—National Service Commission Account.

May 15, 1934, audited and found correct.

J. S. WISE
JOHN H. POORMAN
Auditors

BÁLANCE DUE BY CLASSES ON 1932 AND 1933
CONTINGENT

Classes	Balance due on 1932	Balance due on 1933	Total Amt. due on 1932 and 1933
Lebanon.....	\$100 38	\$157 69	
Lancaster.....	993 40	51 35	
East Susquehanna.....	619 23	256 78	
West Susquehanna.....	1,215 09	307 65	
Goshenhoppen.....		Cr. 14	
Lehigh.....	275 51	Cr. .70	
Wyoming.....			
Reading.....	340 92	223 59	
Eastern Hungarian.....	448 68	93 53	\$5,082 96
Central Ohio.....		100 00	
East Ohio.....		100 00	
Northwest Ohio.....	429 35	452 28	
Lakeside Hungarian.....	258 00	119 54	1,459 17
Milwaukee.....		409 86	
Nebraska.....	447 52	110 68	
Manitoba.....	184 92	32 64	
Eureka.....	555 72	106 14	
North Dakota.....	51 72	32 93	1,932 13
Westmoreland.....	307 76	432 73	
Clarion.....		48 00	
Somerset.....	758 25	182 98	
Allegheny.....		50 00	
Western Hungarian.....	928 20		2,707 92
Mercersburg.....	180 00		
Baltimore-Washington.....	340 00	222 69	742 69
New York.....	12 47		
West New York.....	1,286 04	328 29	
German Philadelphia.....	150 80	308 33	
Heidelberg.....	696 12	155 00	2,937 05
	<hr/>		
	\$10,580 08	\$4,281 84	\$14,861 92

Western Hungarian Classis is now the Zion's Hungarian of the Synod of the Mid-West and the Lakeside Hungarian of the Ohio Synod.

General Synod Receipts and Expenditures During the First Four Months of 1934

During the first four months of 1934 the General Synod received \$9,202.51, as follows:

Receipts on 1929 Deficit	\$ 451.05
Receipts on 1932 Balance	489.93
Receipts on 1933 and 1934 Contingent	8,261.53

\$9,202.51

Of this amount, \$4,398.44 was turned over to the Executive Committee of General Synod for its use, as follows:

On 1929 Deficit	\$ 187.94
On 1932 Balance	244.96
On 1933 and 1934 Account	3,965.54

\$4,398.44

The total expenditures during the four months amounted to \$3,388.06.

Respectfully submitted,

Milton Warner, Treasurer.

The report of the Executive Committee as found in the Blue Book was presented by the Secretary, Dr. William E. Lampe, and adopted. (The adding of the column for non-active members is to be deferred until the end of the calendar year, 1935.)

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: The membership of the Executive Committee of the General Synod since the meeting of the General Synod in 1932 has been a minister and an elder from each of the six Synods, the President and the Stated Clerk of the General Synod and a representative of the W. M. S. G. S. These persons are: Rev. Henry J. Christman, D.D.; Rev. Melvin E. Beck; Rev. William M. Diefenderfer, D.D.; Prof. John H. Eisenhauer; Rev. George Grether; Mr. Walter M. Hand; Mr. William Klumb, Jr.; Mrs. F. W. Leich; Rev. John Lentz, D.D.; Mr. J. Franklin Meyer, Ph.D.; Rev. F. H. Rupnow, D.D.; Rev. J. Rauch Stein, D.D.; Rev. Paul D. Yoder, D.D.; Mr. George W. Ziegler; Mr. Clarence E. Zimmerman.

The President of the General Synod, Dr. H. J. Christman, served as Chairman, Dr. William E. Lampe as Secretary, and Elder Milton Warner, Treasurer of the General Synod, as Treasurer of the Committee. Dr. J. M. G. Darms was Assistant Secretary until December, 1932.

The Committee held only three meetings. The membership was so widely scattered that the expense of holding semi-annual meetings was almost prohibitive, even though some members of the Committee paid their own expenses in whole or in part. The Committee kept in close touch through correspondence and the Chairman made frequent visits to the Committee offices.

The Executive Committee was continuously hampered through lack of funds. Receipts were irregular. Money was tied up in a closed bank and it was necessary to put off payments of bills sometimes for many months. The former Committee spent almost twenty-eight thousand dollars in 1931, of which three thousand was paid by the Boards and the remainder by the General Synod. Immediately after the adjournment of the General Synod in 1932 the new Executive Committee cut down its expenses. The Boards of Home Missions and Foreign Missions were in distress and unable to pay their part of the co-operative promotional expenses incurred prior to June 30, 1932, and the Executive Committee cancelled one obligation of \$415.00 of the Board of Home Missions and one of \$420.00 of the Board of Foreign Missions. The expenses for 1932 were brought down to twenty-one thousand dollars. When the new budget of twelve thousand dollars a year came into effect at the beginning of 1933, the

Executive Committee and its Secretary determined to keep within that amount. We are happy to report that all bills have been paid. Our receipts and expenses were as follows:

Balance in Bank January 1, 1932..... \$936.71

<i>Receipts</i>	1932	1933	TOTAL FOR 1932-1933
Apportionment (with Contingent Fund of General Synod).....	\$18,954.95	\$11,664.84	\$30,619.79
Board of Home Missions.....	415.00	.....	415.00
Board of Foreign Missions.....	420.00	.....	420.00
Board of Christian Education.....	210.00	.....	210.00
Board of Ministerial Relief.....	285.00	.....	285.00
Parkway Trust Company*	1,032.36	258.09	1,290.45
Literature	142.93	22.59	165.52
Interest on Bank Balance	6.47	6.07	12.54
	\$21,466.71	\$11,951.59	33,418.30
			\$34,355.01

<i>Expenditures</i>	1932	1933	TOTAL FOR 1932-1933
Salary—Executive Secretary	\$4,750.00	\$4,000.00	\$8,750.00
Salary—Asst. Executive Secretary.....	4,000.00	.....	4,000.00
Salary—Stenographic and Clerical Aid	3,861.71	2,074.50	5,936.21
Travel—Executive Secretary	373.90	306.73	680.63
Travel—Asst. Executive Secretary.....	321.72	.....	321.72
Travel—Executive Committee Members, etc.	1,565.98	1,372.05	2,938.03
Rent	1,531.40	1,152.00	2,683.40
Printing	2,158.06	1,510.39	3,668.45
Stewardship Essay and Poster Contest	437.40	301.60	739.00
Literature	140.19	93.20	233.39
Multigraphing & Addressing.....	216.59	43.55	260.14
Postage	1,018.03	569.49	1,587.52
Publicity	131.75	48.00	179.75
Office Supplies and Miscellaneous Expenses	350.00	229.49	579.49
Compensation Insurance and Suspension Fund	32.52	72.95	105.47
Auditor (C. P. A.)	60.00	.....	60.00
Actuary (Com. on Board Operations and Finances)	200.00	.....	200.00
Government Tax on Checks.....	4.30	6.54	10.84
	\$21,153.55	\$11,780.49	\$32,934.04

Balance in Bank December 31, 1933 (January 6, 1934) \$1,420.97

The accounts have been audited by Rev. John H. Poorman and Mr. Jos. S. Wise.

During the first four months of 1934 the Executive Committee received \$4,398.44 on its Apportionment and \$7.03 for literature. Its total expenditures during the four months amounted to \$3,951.48.

* The balance still in the closed Parkway Trust Company reported to the General Synod in 1932 was \$2,752.98. In addition to the \$1,290.45, reported above, there will be further dividends.

The General Synod of 1932 in addition to outlining the duties and functions of its Executive Committee referred to it a number of matters for action or for further study. On some of these a specific report should be made:

1. Column for non-active members. We gave this matter careful study and much thought and requested the opinions of the Classes and Synods. Those who favor this column seem strong in their convictions, while those not in favor are rather indifferent. Assuming that our present forms of Statistical Blanks will be used for a limited period, the Executive Committee recommends that a column for this purpose be added to our Statistical Blanks.
2. Column for contributing members. This request from one of our Classes did not meet with our approval and we so informed the Classis.
3. Re-organization. In view of the union of our Church with the Evangelical Synod of North America our Committee deemed it inexpedient to go into this matter, or make any report concerning it to the General Synod.
4. Forms and Rules. Many of these must be changed in the new Church and our notes made in recent years will be available to those who will have charge of this matter.

Much of the work was done through four committees whose activities are severally listed, but everything done by these committees was subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

I. CHURCH ADMINISTRATION, CHURCH GOVERNMENT AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

This Committee dealt with not only the above items which were referred to the Executive Committee by the General Synod, but received many communications from Classes and other groups for assistance regarding general denominational matters. Wherever the General Synod had acted or the constitution and general policy were clear we gave aid. In many instances we suggested steps that should be taken.

We advised with and gave assistance to Nebraska Classis in its difficulties with the Immanuel congregation at Lincoln, Nebraska. This is our largest congregation west of the Mississippi and the issues involved were far reaching.

We have co-operated with Synods and Classes in the re-alignment of the boundaries of our judicatories. Very great progress has been made in the last two years. We have secured the election or appointment by every Synod of a Committee on Boundaries and these Committees will be ready to serve as soon as the union of the Evangelical Synod of North America and the Reformed Church in the United States is effected.

The General Synod made its Executive Committee the Continuation Committee of the Forward Movement. Upon our recommendation in 1932 the General Synod voted that this account be closed and disbursement made as soon as possible. The Executive Committee requested Treasurer H. E. Paisley to disburse in equal sums to the Boards of Home Missions and Foreign Missions all funds received in the liquidation of the Parkway Trust Company or from other sources. Treasurer Paisley reports that since April 30, 1932, \$740.57 has been received and of this \$370.29 was paid to the Board of Foreign Missions and \$370.28 to the Board of Home Missions.

The General Synod of 1929 in constituting the Reformed Churchmen's League instructed it to work in co-operation with the Executive Committee of the General Synod. The Executive Committee has given all possible assistance to the League during the last two years.

In the absence of instructions from the General Synod two years ago, we hesitated to take advance steps in stimulating the spiritual life of the Church. In the previous triennium the Executive Committee had secured the appointment of Committees on Evangelism in the several Synods and Classes. In response to many appeals and general requests from the Church at large, we

co-operated with these Committees and with other groups. Efforts were made to win back inactive members, to increase church attendance and to secure new members. President Christman at our request prepared a booklet, "The Spiritually Efficient Church," which has been used with good results in hundreds of congregations. Many retreats for the deepening of the spiritual life of pastors and elders and others have been held.

II. CO-OPERATION AND PROMOTION

We have done everything possible to assist every Classis and every congregation to pay its Apportionment in full.

The educational and inspirational work of each Board is so closely intertwined with that of the other Boards, and the work definitely assigned to the Executive Committee involves a certain educational and inspirational service in behalf of all the Boards, so that it seems impossible to definitely distinguish and separate one from the other. In order that each agency might function with the utmost freedom and yet secure the greatest degree of co-operation a Committee of Eight was organized, one representing each Board and four representing the Executive Committee, for the purpose of conferring together with reference to plans of co-operative activity. This Committee has been functioning helpfully.

The most important agencies in our denominational promotional work are the Classical and Synodical Missionary and Stewardship Committees. Many of these have labored most faithfully and loyally under the trying conditions of recent years and to them the Church is deeply indebted. Our Executive Committee has worked with them and through them. They have co-operated in, and in some instances have been largely responsible for, the items referred to in this report.

Members of our consistories have in many instances proved valuable helpers in supporting our denominational work. Very many Consistorial Conferences have been held—in some instances of all of the elders and deacons of all of the congregations of an entire Classis or of a large portion of the Classis, and in other cases with members of a single consistory. This has resulted in a better understanding of our work and has frequently led to more hearty support of the work of our Boards.

In our efforts to assist in the payment in full of the Apportionments for the Budgets of the Boards, we met with many difficulties. It was necessary to call the attention of the Classes to the fact that by action of the General Synod contingent monies are not to be included in benevolent budgets and that congregations should include contingent monies in their budgets for congregational expenses; we requested Classes to pay all Apportionment monies contributed for the Boards of the Church to the Boards and not use them for causes within their own bounds; we appealed to congregations to consider the Apportionment monies as sacred funds given for specific purposes and not to use them in any circumstances for congregational purposes; we requested Classes not to break down our Apportionment system by increasing the number of local causes in Classical Apportionments; and not to include in their Apportionments for Contingent Expenses any items not necessary for the actual running expenses of the Church.

For the information of the Church and to encourage the payment of the Apportionment in full we have continued to publish "The Kingdom's Support" and have sent it to pastors and a small group of other ministers and laymen. We have, however, issued it only in the first month of each quarter during these last two years and have published the receipts of the Boards for the other months in the Church papers.

The Every Member Canvass is the best method of church finance. We have assisted congregations in making their Canvasses. We have endeavored to live up to our instructions by serving as a general bureau of church finance and have given advice regarding the financial problems of congregations. The

Canvass was omitted rather generally for one or two years during the period of economic crisis, but was made with some enthusiasm and great success by many hundreds of our congregations in the fall of 1933. We have made rather elaborate plans for the Canvass next November, calling it a "Kingdom Roll Call" with the aim of having our entire membership underwrite the denominational budget for 1935 and make payments on the weekly basis. The general plan is as follows:

- a. That the Classis be the unit, with the Classical Missionary and Stewardship Committee in charge, assisting each congregation that is willing in the training of its canvassers and the encouragement of its members.
- b. That each congregation of a Classis, where it is willing, make its Canvass during November, the members subscribing on the weekly basis toward the Apportionment and the Congregational Expenses.
- c. That the Classis through its Missionary and Stewardship Committee keep in touch with the congregations during the Canvass, receiving reports of the amounts subscribed by each congregation toward the Apportionment of the Classis.
- d. That the Apportionment of the Classis be made the minimum goal.

The entire expenses for promotion, although much of it was in behalf of the work of the Boards, were paid from our Executive Committee funds.

III. BUDGETS AND CAMPAIGNS

As instructed by the General Synod, we computed each year the Apportionment of every Classis for each of the items in the Budgets adopted by the General Synod two years ago and sent the Apportionments to each Classis.

The Executive Committee approved the Mortgage Redemption Insurance Plan of the Board of Home Missions for the payment of its debt. This campaign originally intended to be completed in 1932 was extended and ended December, 1933. The Executive Committee gave the right of way to the Board of Foreign Missions for its plan for reduction of its debt during the first five months of this year. These plans of both of these Boards had the approval of the Committee of the General Synod on Amortization of the Debts of the two Boards of Missions.

The writing of Annuity Agreements needs more careful study and supervision throughout our Church. Nearly all Boards and agencies are following the policies, rates and other items included in our report as adopted by the General Synod two years ago. Not every institution is able to fulfill the prerequisite financial conditions to qualify it to write Annuity Agreements. Our people should be protected in this matter. The Committee has been making a study of this and wished to make up and announce a list of those Boards, institutions and agencies qualified and justified to write these agreements, but was not able to complete this by the time of this special meeting of the General Synod.

The report of the Special Committee on Board Operations and Finances, submitted to the General Synod by the Executive Committee two years ago, was referred to the four Boards and they were asked to seriously study the report and follow it as far as possible, making report from time to time to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee appointed a new committee on Board Operations and Finances, the members of which are the members of General Synod's Committee on Amortization. This new Committee held a number of meetings and recently made a new comprehensive report to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has not yet had opportunity to take action regarding this report.

The Executive Committee feels that the annual Budget adopted by the General Synod in 1932 for each of the years 1933-1934-1935, is not altogether satisfactory and should be revised. It is especially inadequate in the matter of method of Apportionment. Ten Classes paid more on the Apportionments for our Boards in 1932 than they were apportioned for 1933. This was even truer of congregations, many of which would have paid more than they were apportioned. It is not wise nor fair to apportion all of the Classes on the

same basis, even though a Classis should find it advisable to distribute its apportionment on the per capita basis.

The present time does not seem opportune for readjustment. Therefore we recommend that the Budgets adopted by the General Synod at Akron in 1932 for the years 1933-1934-1935 be continued for our constituency until such time as the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church legislates otherwise, with the proviso that our own General Synod shall increase the Budget of the Executive Committee and the General Synod Contingent, in case the merger causes increased expenditures.

IV. STEWARDSHIP

The study and practice of Christian Stewardship is a year-round privilege and duty, but the Reformed Church gives especial attention to this subject in the first three months of each year. The methods advocated and urged are preaching of Stewardship sermons by the pastor, study in the Sunday School, Young People's Society and Woman's Missionary Society and in the Reformed Churchmen's League, and the reading of Stewardship literature in the home and family. Every year thousands of our young people write Stewardship essays or make posters on some Stewardship subject. The twelfth contest, recently completed, was participated in by almost all of our Classes and by hundreds of our congregations.

Two Stewardship Conferences were held in recent months, one in Philadelphia Classis and the other in Zion's Classis. These were under the auspices of the Classical Missionary and Stewardship Committees, Secretaries of Stewardship of the W. M. S., leaders in Christian Education and others. It is hoped that a similar conference will be held in every one of our Classes during the next year or two.

The meaning of Christian Stewardship is becoming clearer. A re-statement, "The Basis of Christian Stewardship," adopted unanimously by the United Stewardship Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States and Canada, was adopted by our Executive Committee. This is being approved by the judicatories of denominations throughout the world and we recommend its adoption by the General Synod. It is as follows:

"God is the creator of all things and the Father of all men. In Him all things consist and to Him all belong. In Him man lives and moves and has his being. God purposed man's highest welfare in fellowship with Himself.

"God has endowed man with manifold gifts of body and mind. He has entrusted to him the use and control of things, and given him dominion over the works of His hands in partnership with Himself.

"As steward of all that he is and has, man's use and control of all entrusted to him is for the development of his own character, the betterment of his fellowmen, the service of Christ, and the glory of God.

"The true steward constantly and joyfully recognizes and acknowledges his stewardship. As a partner of His Heavenly Father he shares himself and his possessions with all mankind."

PUBLICITY

We have endeavored to "give publicity to the denominational activities and achievements," but because of lack of time and funds have not been able to do as much as we have wished. We have furnished material to our church papers and the Almanac and have sent out occasional articles to a number of denominational and interdenominational religious journals. We sent several articles to 241 important newspapers and sent news now and then to the newspapers in every town and city where we have a Reformed church. We have given publicity to the union of our Church with the Evangelical Synod. We are prepared to give publicity to this special meeting of our General Synod and regarding the birth of the new Church.

CONCLUSION

The Executive Committee has endeavored to keep in touch with the entire denomination through annual Statements to the Synods, to the Classes at their

Spring and Fall Meetings, and by correspondence with congregations. We have co-operated with various committees in Synods and Classes.

We have been passing through a difficult period. The Executive Committee has above all else endeavored to be a steady influence to the Church. We have had faith in our Church and have faith in our constituency as we become a part of the new Church. May the Great Head of the Church lead us on.

Respectfully submitted,

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL SYNOD,
HENRY J. CHRISTMAN, *Chairman*
WILLIAM E. LAMPE, *Secretary*

The report of the Committee on Minutes of the General Synod was presented by the Chairman, Dr. Calvin M. De Long, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: The following matters in the Minutes of the General Synod of 1932 claim the attention of this Special Meeting of the General Synod:

- I. A report of the Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union, pages 85-91. This report has already been made this morning.
- II. Reports of Committees, Representatives and Delegates.
 1. Committee on Vacancy and Supply, pages 80 and 102
 2. Historical Society, page 91
 3. Committee on Publication of Zwingli's Latin Works, page 92
 4. Representative to National Lord's Day Alliance, pages 102-3, 128
 5. Representative of Counselling Commission, Y. M. C. A., pages 92-3
 6. Representative to the American Bible Society, page 83
 7. Delegates to Alliance of Reformed Churches, pages 105-7
 8. Delegates to Federal Council of Churches, pages 107-10
 9. Committee on Amortization of Debts of the Boards of Missions

All of these items are scheduled as Orders of the Day for this afternoon's session.

- III. Report on Actions of the Classes on Constitutional Amendments, pages 118 and 308.

We recommend that this Report be made at this time by the Stated Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

Calvin M. De Long, Chairman
Nevin B. Mathes
Wayne H. Bowers
E. E. Wible
Thomas McIntyre

Action on the foregoing report was as follows:

Item I was ordered marked "Attended to."

Item II was tabled until the items shall be called up as provided in the adopted Order of Business.

In the consideration of Item III of the foregoing report, the tabulated summary of the actions of the Classes on four new Amendments to the Constitution was reported by the Stated Clerk as follows:

REPORT OF THE ACTIONS OF CLASSES ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: The General Synod at Akron in 1932, by Constitutional action sent down to the Classes four new amendments to the Constitution for their adoption or rejection in accordance with Arts. 119 and 209 of the Constitution as follows:

1. *Article 200*—Amended to read as follows: A service shall be held preparatory to the Lord's Supper. If any member has wilfully departed from the faith, either in doctrine or in conduct, a meeting of the Spiritual Council shall be held prior to the administration of the Communion to the end that all improper persons may be excluded from the Lord's Table. In the congregational records the dates on which the Holy Communion has been administered and the names of the members who have communed shall be noted.

2. *Article 82*—Amended to read as follows—The annual meeting of a Classis shall be opened with religious services, including the preaching of a sermon by the president, or by any minister or licentiate in good standing in any Evangelical denomination, designated by the president or by Classis, after which the roll shall be called. If a quorum is present, the officers for the ensuing year shall be elected and the business shall proceed according to the Rules of Order prescribed by the Genral Synod.

3. A new article to precede *Article 46*, (Constitution of 1908) as follows: "Women shall be eligible to the offices of elder and deacon and accordingly to membership in the Judicaries of the church.

4. *Article 119*—The second sentence to be amended as follows: If, at the next stated meeting of the General Synod, it shall appear that two-thirds of the Classes have adopted the ordinance or amendment, the same is adopted and shall be so declared by the General Synod and be binding on the whole church.

A summarized statement of the actions of the Classes on these New Amendments records that the *Amendment to Article 200* was adopted by 54 Classes; rejected by two and from three no action is reported.

The *Amendment to Article 82* was adopted by 49 Classes; rejected by 6; there was a tie vote in one; and from three no action is reported.

The *New Article to precede Article 46* was adopted by 40 Classes; rejected by 14; laid on the table by one, and from four no action is reported.

The *Amendment to Article 119* was adopted by 51 Classes; rejected by three; notice taken reported by two, and from three no action is reported.

This Summarized Statement reports the adoption of each of the four amendments by the concurrence of the requisite two-thirds of the 59 Classes.

A record of the action taken by each of the 59 Classes enrolled when the Amendments were referred to them, has been filed.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Rauch Stein, Stated Clerk.

Following the reading of this report, President Christman made official declaration that the four New Amendments are now a part of the Constitution of the Church.

The report of the Committee on Minutes of the General Synod was then adopted as a whole.

The report of the Committee on District Synods was read by Rev. Geo. T. N. Beam and adopted.

The report of the Committee on Minutes of English Classes was read by Rev. J. J. Gilbert and adopted.

The report of the Committee on Minutes of German Classes was read by Rev. Aug. W. Klingner and adopted.

The foregoing reports, as adopted, read as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT SYNODS

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: On May 8 request was made to the Stated Clerks of each of the six Synods and the 58 Classes by the Stated Clerk of the General Synod to send him, at their earliest convenience, a brief record of such actions taken since the last meeting of the General Synod as should be available for the information of the General Synod at its Special Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, on June 26, 1934.

In response, abstracts were received from Eastern, Ohio and Pittsburgh Synods.

These abstracts advise the General Synod that all matters it referred to them had received favorable consideration.

Overtures received through the Synodical abstracts or directly by the Stated Clerk from these Synods have been referred to the Committee on Overtures for related presentation to your Reverend Body.

Respectfully submitted,

G. T. N. Beam, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF THE ENGLISH CLASSES

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: In response to the request of the Stated Clerk of the General Synod, abstracts were received from 28 of the English Classes.

These abstracts noted that all matters referred to them by the General Synod received due attention.

The actions taken by the Classes on the Plan of Union and on the new Amendments to the Constitution were previously certified and transmitted to the Stated Clerk of the General Synod for official tabulation and report.

Overtures contained in the abstracts or received directly by the Stated Clerk from these Classes have been referred to the Committee on Overtures for orderly presentation to your Reverend Body.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Lockhart, Chairman.
J. J. Gilbert.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF THE GERMAN CLASSES

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: Abstracts from the minutes of eight German Classes were received in response to a request for them sent out on May 8, 1934.

These abstracts note that all matters referred to them by the General Synod received attention due them.

The action taken by the Classes on the Plan of Union and on the new amendments to the Constitution were previously certified and transmitted to the Stated Clerk of the General Synod for official tabulation and report.

Overtures contained in these abstracts or received directly by the Stated Clerk from these Classes have been referred to the Committee on Overtures for orderly presentation to your Reverend Body.

Respectfully submitted,

August W. Klingner, Chairman.

The report of the Committee on Overtures was read by Rev. A. N. Sayres. Action was taken seriatim, as follows:

Section I

Items 1 to 10 were adopted and referred to the New General Synod.

The Stated Clerk was authorized to reply to the three communications of *Item 11* and to offer the letters of greeting to the church papers.

Item 12, together with its accompanying recommendation, was adopted.

Item 13, Synod by special motion voted that the Nebraska Classis be excused from the payment of \$500 of its unpaid Contingent Apportionment.

Section II

The *Overtures to the New General Synod, 1-5*, were, on motion, so referred.

The report was finally adopted as a whole. It is as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON OVERTURES

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: The following communications were referred to your Committee:

I. Overtures and Communications to the Special Meeting of the General Synod

1. Overture from Lancaster Classis on Militarism and Military Service.—We recommend that this overture be referred to the new General Synod.

2. Overture from Lancaster Classis to change the name of the Sustentation Fund of the Board of Ministerial Relief.—We recommend the same reference.

3. Overture from the Synod of the Mid-West requesting formulation of an Amendment making it possible for the district Synods to elect members to represent them on the Boards of the Church.—We recommend the same reference.

4. Overture from the Board of Christian Education on the Observance of National Sunday School Teachers' Recognition Day on October 6, 1934.—We recommend the same reference.

5. Communication from the World Calendar Association, Inc., with reference to Easter stabilization and general calendar reform.—We recommend the same reference.

6. Overture from the Southwest Ohio Classis reiterating its request for the enlargement of the Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union.—We recommend the same reference.

7. Overtures from the Synod of the Northwest and Sheboygan Classis requesting this General Synod to attend to it that in the Evangelical and Reformed Church the Heidelberg Catechism be retained for the Reformed Church as heretofore.—We recommend the same reference.

8. Overtures identical from the Minnesota, Ursinus and Eureka Classes asking certain permissions with reference to ministers, missionaries, the Mission House Seminary and the Presbyterial form of government.—We recommend the same reference.

9. Overture from the World Conference on Faith and Order requesting appointment of three representatives to the 1937 World Conference.—We recommend the same reference.

10. Overtures from Sheboygan and Nebraska Classes requesting that relations with the Federal Council of Churches be discontinued.—We recommend the same reference.

11. Letters of greeting and congratulation from our senior Missionary, Dr. Jairus P. Moore, the Japan Mission and the Hungarian Conventus at Budapest.—We recommend that the Stated Clerk be instructed to make appropriate acknowledgement of these greetings and file them.

12. Overture from Goshenhoppen Classis requesting that the cause of Ministerial Relief be placed under the care of a capable laymen's organization.—We recommend that the General Synod respectfully remind Goshenhoppen Classis that the Board is chartered under the Constitution of the Church which requires clerical and lay representatives on all Boards and that its proposal is, therefore, unconstitutional.

13. Overture from Nebraska Classis asking that it be excused from the payment of \$500 of its unpaid General Synod Contingent Fund Apportionment because of the outlay it has made for legal expenses in its effort to save its largest congregation for the Reformed Church.—We recommend reference to the Finance Committee with power to make proper disposition of the case.

II. Overtures to the New General Synod of the Uniting Churches

1. From Lancaster Classis on Militarism and Military Service.—We recommend that this overture be referred to the new General Synod.

2. From Ohio Synod asking that a claim for exemption from Military Service for all conscientious objectors be incorporated into the New Constitution—We recommend the same reference.

3. From East Ohio Classis requesting that a system be wrought out giving definite authority for the placing of ministers.—We recommend the same reference.

4. (a) Communication from the Zion's Reformed Church, York, Pa., inviting the Evangelical and Reformed Church to hold its next General Session in the Zion's Church at such time as may be agreed upon by the body.—We recommend the same reference.

(b) Communication from St. John's Reformed Church, Ft. Wayne, Ind., endorsed by the Ft. Wayne Classis, to hold its next meeting in St. John's Reformed Church.—We recommend the same reference.

Respectfully submitted,

*A. N. Sayres
H. H. Hartman
M. N. George
C. A. Weiser*

The Necrology, containing the names of 53 ministers ranging in ages from 36 to 100 years, was read by Dr. J. Rauch Stein. Synod rose and joined in singing the hymn "For all the saints who from their labors rest," and was led in prayer by Dr. Rufus C. Zartman, after which the Synod took recess at 12:30 P. M.

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK ON NECROLOGY

Name and Residence	Lic.	Ord.	Date of Death	Age Y.M.D.
Alspach, Charles B., D.D., Jenkintown, Pa.....	1890	1890	6-15-34	72- 9-25
Arey, Clarence M., Bridgewater, Va.....	1923	1923	6-16-33	36- 5- 1
Arpke, William A., Chilton, Wis.....	1891	1892	9-24-32	66- 7-25
Badertcher, Gottfried, Louisville, Ky.....	1892	1892	10- 4-32	71-11-24
Bartholomew, Allen R., D.D., Philadelphia, Pa.....	1877	1877	11-27-33	78- 2-11
Bear, George A., Scranton, Pa.....	1916	1916	9- 7-33	41- 3-12
Beck, Edward M., D.D., North Canton, Ohio.....	1882	1882	6-17-33	75- 3-12
Buntz, Stephen, Hamburg, Pa.....	1891	1891	3-25-33	78- 5- 2
Burkhardt, E. C., Columbus, Ohio.....	1905	1905	11-17-32	51- 3-24
Bushong, Chas. A., Baltimore, Md.....	1897	1897	1-15-34	70- 2-26
Casselman, Amos, Tiffin, Ohio.....	1876	1876	2- 7-33	83- 4-23
Clark, David B., Wyomissing, Pa.....	1904	1904	4-12-33	56- 3-20
Cox, Dougan C., Thomasville, N. C.....	1896	1896	12-27-32	78- 2- 3
Dahlmann, A. Emil, D.D., Springville, N. Y.....	1876	1877	6-15-34	82
Darbaker, H. David, D.D., Emlenton, Pa.....	1874	1874	12-12-32	85- 7-17
Dechant, Abner S., D.D., Hanover, Pa.....	1890	1890	2-19-33	67- 6- 2
DeChant, J. Frank, New London, N. H.....	1899	....	4-19-34	65
Foust, Oliver P., Canton, Ohio.....	1899	1899	6-11-34	68- 6-19
Frech, Henry, Germany.....	1880	1880	1- 6-33	73- 9- 1
Freeman, Roy Joseph, Reading, Pa.....	1906	1906	7-17-33	56- 7-11
Gumbert, Christian, Schellsburg, Pa.....	1879	1879	7-10-33	82
Hawk, Joseph Frederick, Lafayette, Ind.....	1905	1905	11- 7-33	56- 2-24
Hawn, Isaac S., Ph.D., Pittsburgh, Pa.....	1880	1880	10- 7-32	79- 6- 1
Heilman, U. Henry, D.D., Lebanon, Pa.....	1862	1863	12-14-32	94- 9-12
Helfrich, William U., D.D., Bath, Pa.....	1896	1896	10-13-33	61- 5-12
Holshouser, Harvey A.M., Ph.D., Salisbury, N. C.....	1894	1894	1-26-34	66- 7-24
Kehl, Chas. P., Carlisle, Pa.....	1893	1893	2- 8-34	65- 6-17
Kirchefer, Remt. J. A., Sutton, Neb.....	1882	1882	10-29-33	75- 1-25
Kosower, Jacob S., Cleveland, Ohio.....	1893	1893	12- -33	64
Kovacsy, Coloman, Phoenixville, Pa.....	1903	1903	3-21-33	59-11-14
Krampe, Adolph, D.D., Plymouth, Wis.....	1891	1891	12-11-33	66- 1-26
Laudenslager, Daniel K., Shenandoah, Pa.....	1901	1901	11-15-33	60-10- 2
Lehr, Charles D., Ringtown, Pa.....	1898	1899	1-27-34	64- 2-10
Lindaman, Francis S., D.D., Littlestown, Pa.....	1872	1872	11-19-33	88- 0- 9
Meckstroth, William L., Mertztown, Pa.....	1903	1903	10- 3-33	55- 7- 9
Miller, Henry, Marietta, Pa.....	1921	1921	1-30-33	37-11- 7
Miller, Newton J., Marietta, Pa.....	1881	1881	4- 4-33	77- 2-10
Mullan, James M., D.D., Philadelphia, Pa.....	1897	1897	8-22-33	64- 7- 2
Radacsy, Alex, Corning, Ohio.....	1905	1905	11- -33	
Ream, Solomon, Lancaster, Ohio.....	1874	1874	8-15-32	84-13-
Rupp, Chas. E., Lancaster, Pa.....	1907	1907	1-11-33	53- 4-23
Schacht, F. William, Chicora, Pa.....	1922	1923	4-16-34	66- 2-
Schulz, Herman W. J., Brooklyn, N. Y.....	1903	1903	6- 3-33	54-11- 5
Smith, Joseph C., Mulberry, Ind.....	1890	1890	11- 3-33	70- 5- 5
Snyder, Jacob F., New Kensington, Pa.....	1864	1865	3-31-34	100-0- 8
Snyder, Solomon U., Barberton, Ohio.....	1885	1885	12- 4-32	73- 4-11
Sorber, George S., D.D., York, Pa.....	1878	1878	8-22-33	77- 2-21
Stamm, Samuel A., New Castle, Pa.....	1898	1898	3- 3-34	79- 5-19
Stofflet, Sefellen E., D.D., Hazleton, Pa.....	1889	1889	11-16-33	71- 6-11
Sykes, William C., Hannastown, Pa.....	1893	1893	4-18-34	66- 2- 6
Warner, Chas. A., Dayton, Ohio.....	1923	1923	12-25-33	45-
Whitemore, Samuel L., D.D., Forreston, Ill.....	1878	1879	11- 9-33	82- 1- 9
Wiest, Edward F., D.D., Ivyland, Pa.....	1893	1893	2-21-32	69- 0-18

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 26, 1934

The General Synod reconvened Tuesday at 1:45 in the Pilgrim Congregational Church, rose and joined in singing "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord." Prayer was offered by Dr. Wm. F. Kosman.

The Bar of the house was defined as the first thirteen pews.

The Cabinet of the Women's Missionary Society of the General Synod was appreciatively welcomed.

The Synod then welcomed the representatives of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod, composing its Commission on Church Union, who bore greetings from the Conference stating that they had this day confirmed the union and expressed their readiness to meet for the merger. Dr. L. W. Goebel addressed the Synod introducing the respective members of the Commissions.

The President of the General Synod, Dr. Henry J. Christman, responded in appropriate words.

Synod arose for the greetings and Dr. Charles E. Miller led in prayer.

The Order of Business, under Item II of the Call, was then resumed.

The Report on Vacancy and Supply, Dr. Allan S. Meck, Chairman, was adopted as follows:

REPORT ON VACANCY AND SUPPLY

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: Your Committee on Vacancy and Supply, composed of ministers and laymen coming from every section of the Country where our Church is doing work in behalf of Christ and His Kingdom, was not called together and therefore has no recommendations to offer. There are real reasons why this work was not done. In the light of falling receipts year after year the Committee felt it was not justified to spend the necessary money that a thorough study would entail. Unless the Committee as a whole would do this work it would not be a representative report. The men on the Committee live hundreds of miles apart, making Committee meetings a big item of expense. Furthermore, the merger with the Evangelical Synod of North America made the Committee hesitant in prosecuting this work just at a time when the merged denomination needs the knowledge of the whole Communion in respect to Vacancies and Supplies. Then too, the new situation the Church faces with respect to the few vacancies that exist throughout the whole denomination and the retrenchment, and adjustment and even abandonment of some of our Missionary Work, made the Committee feel that a new study by the United Denomination would be of more value if this work were done during the three years immediately ahead of us.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan S. Meck, Chairman.

The following report of the Historical Society was adopted.

Synod, by special motion, voted that all the archives and records of the General Synod be given finally to the Historical Society of the Reformed Church, the transfer to be made gradually and not to be completed as long as any volume or document is needed by the Stated Clerk."

REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE U. S.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: I submit herewith the report of the work of the Historical Society of the Reformed Church in the United States. The Society held its Seventieth Anniversary in the Chapel of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., on Wednesday, May 9, at 9:15

o'clock A. M., at which time the address was delivered by President W. N. Schwarze, D.D., Bethlehem, Pa., on "Some features of the relation between the Moravian Church and the Reformed Church in Colonial America."

The archives of the Society, consisting of the original records of Synods, Classes and of many congregations, of manuscripts, of letters, sermons and historical data relating to the early ministers of the Reformed Church, of well-nigh 5,000 printed books and pamphlets, are to be found in a suitable room in the Library Building of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster. These sources furnish to any one interested in the early history of the Church in this country, an abundant supply of material. Here are to be found the autograph letters of our leading ministers from the days of Boehm and Schlatter, liturgies, hymn-books, catechisms, and many historical relics and missionary curios.

It is the hope of the Society that eventually all the material relating to the early history of the Reformed Church in the United States may find its way into the archives of the Society.

The officers of the Society are grateful for our interest in its work, and solicit your co-operation in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

H. M. J. Klein, President.

The report on Publication of Zwingli's Works was approved as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION OF ZWINGLI'S LATIN WORKS IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: Since the last meeting of the General Synod, your Committee has not met nor has it undertaken the publication of another volume of Zwingli's Latin Works in English Translation. Since the funds for this purpose have been exhausted, the Committee does not feel that anything can be done for the present, but recommends that this report be submitted to the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church so that regular action in reference to the continuation of the Committee may be taken.

Respectfully submitted,

George W. Richards, Chairman.

The following reports were severally presented in order and adopted.

REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NATIONAL LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: It may be well to mention the two-fold object of the National Lord's Day Alliance: First, the preservation of the first day of the week as a time for rest, worship and religious education. Second, the preservation of a friendly and cooperative alliance between Church membership and Christian citizenship.

The 45th Anniversary of the Alliance was celebrated in New York City on December 10 and 11, 1933. The meetings on the 11th inst. were attended by the undersigned.

From the annual report of the Secretary of the Alliance, Rev. Harry L. Bowlby, D.D., we gather and report a few facts that may be of interest to your reverend body.

First. As might be expected, there is a shortage of funds and for this reason some of the work of the Alliance has had to be curtailed. The prospects for a financial recovery, however, seem to be rather bright and hopeful.

Second. Despite conditions tremendously adverse to the activities of the Alliance the Secretary is nevertheless happy to report that many ecclesiastical bodies, civic organizations, affiliated societies, churches and pastors are still standing nobly by and doing what they can to support this important cause morally and financially. It is therefore not yet a so-called "lost cause."

Third. New books, magazines and newspaper articles, sermons, speeches, debates, forums continue to be helpful agencies in stimulating and sustaining interest in the work of the Alliance amongst hundreds of church members and Christian citizens.

Fourth. Along the lines of State legislation and law enforcement some good and substantial work has been done within the past year. In felicitating the Alliance on its 45th Anniversary, President Franklin D. Roosevelt said:

"The object of your organization is, in my opinion, a very worthy one, and the efforts of its members towards the successful attainment of such a goal are deserving of the highest praise. It is my sincere hope that this work may be carried on with even greater success through future years."

Did time and space permit, many other strong testimonials could be added.

Under these circumstances your representative feels that our Church membership and Christian citizenship cannot be too earnestly impressed with the value and importance of the work the Lord's Day Alliance is doing in stemming the tides of gross materialism, Godless secularism and shameless commercialism that threaten to engulf our beloved land and country at this extremely critical time in our history. If the State is to be saved, if the Church is to be saved, the Lord's Day must also be saved. The three are indissolubly related.

Respectfully submitted,

Urban C. Gutelius, Representative.

REPORT OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COUNSELLING COMMISSION OF THE Y. M. C. A. AND THE CHURCHES

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: Your Commissioner attended the meeting of the Commission held in New York City on May 11, 1934. This was the only meeting since the last General Synod.

A most interesting and significant report was made by the Y. M. C. A. officials of a comprehensive study of Church Relations conducted by the Y. M. C. A. Commission on Relation to the Churches, Percy B. Williams, Chairman.

This report was compiled from information furnished by 240 (one-fifth of the total) local associations. Two hundred seventeen of these reported relationships with 4,407 churches or about one-half of the churches occupying the composite field. Among these are 117 Reformed Churches.

The Y can give specialized service to church projects, avoiding the necessity on the part of the churches of getting outside help.

2. The Y can cooperate in enterprises in the community in which the churches and the associations have a common interest and goal. The Y is especially desirous not of doing things *for* the churches as of doing things *with* the churches.

3. The Y can enter into relation with the unchurched groups in the community and thus point the way for the churches.

The work of the Counselling Commission is to continue. Future plans will be worked out at a significant meeting to be held next fall. Special efforts are to be made to increase the degree of cooperation between the Y. M. C. A. and the Federal Council and the International Council of Religious Education as well as with the denominational bodies.

Respectfully submitted,

William F. Kosman, Representative.

REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: It was the privilege of the undersigned to represent the General Synod in the Advisory Council of the American Bible Society at its meetings in New York in December of 1932 and again in December, 1933. This council is composed of representatives of the major denominations of the Protestant Church.

One is at once deeply impressed with the very large work that this Society is doing. It is a purely missionary enterprise. It distributes the Word in well nigh a thousand languages and dialects. Dr. John R. Mott says: "There is not an agency employed in the foreign and home missionary enterprise today the fruitfulness and power of which does not depend upon the presence and efficient working of the Bible Society and its representatives." This work has been in progress for over a century but has cost to date less than a battleship.

The funds of the Society are handled with the utmost care and with consummate business sagacity. It is most remarkable how the work has been carried forward under the very great reduction of financial support during the past several years. Workers have shared this reduction to a sacrificial extent. It is deeply regretted that the General Synod felt constrained to reduce her budget for this good cause from \$5,000 to \$2,500. It is heartily recommended that the new General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church shall appoint a representative to the Advisory Council of the Society and that the largest possible appropriation be made to its support. It is affectionately urged that the support be increased if possible.

With deep appreciation of the honor of representing the General Synod in this capacity, this report is

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY J. CHRISTMAN, Representative

REPORT OF THE DELEGATES TO THE ALLIANCE OF THE REFORMED CHURCHES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD HOLDING THE PRESBYTERIAN SYSTEM

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: The Alliance of the Reformed Churches throughout the World holding the Presbyterian System held its fourteenth general quadrennial Council in the City of Belfast, Ireland, June 21-27, 1933. It was attended by the following representatives of the Reformed Church in the United States: Dr. George W. Richards, the retiring President of the Alliance; Dr. George Leslie Omwake, Dr. E. G. Homrighausen, Dr. Nevin C. Harner, Dr. C. D. Yost. The next quadrennial meeting of the General Council will be held at Montreal, Canada, in 1937. The present officers are: President, Dr. W. A. Curtis, of Edinburgh, Scotland; Vice Presidents, Principal F. J. Paul of Belfast, Ireland; Rev. Dr. Arthur J. Brown, of New York City.

The following are the delegates elected by the General Synod, with the expiration of their terms noted:

Term expires 1935

Dr. Elmer L. Coblenz
Dr. Charles E. Creitz

Dr. John M. G. Darms
Dr. Paul S. Leinbach

Term expires 1938

Elder W. W. Anspach	President H. J. Christman
Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew	Elder Emory L. Coblenz

Term expires 1941

Dr. F. W. Leich	Elder Harry E. Paisley
President Charles E. Miller	President George Leslie Omwake

Term expires 1944

President George W. Richards	Headmaster Edwin M. Hartman
Dr. Charles E. Schaeffer	President Howard R. Omwake

The Western Section met in Washington, D. C., February 14, 15, 1933. It resolved after that date to meet biennially. The Executive Committee, however, had a meeting on February 28, 1934 to act on remits from the General Council. The President of the Western Section is Dr. Charles E. Schaeffer and the Vice President, Dr. Charles S. Cleland. The appropriation to the Alliance is \$600.00 per year.

The Western Section has been stressing the matter of relief for the Continental Churches in Europe. All of the constituent bodies of the Western Section have made a contribution to this work except the Reformed Church in the United States. The Board of Foreign Missions has \$3,000 in its budget for this work, but during the last year no remittance for the same was made.

Attention is called to the death of Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew as a delegate whose term was to expire in 1938 and also to the fact that the terms of four of the delegates expire in 1935.

It is likewise important that the appropriation of \$600.00 annually for the Alliance should continue for the time being.

It is desirable, therefore, that the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States request the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to identify itself with the Alliance and take the necessary steps for support and representation.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. SCHAEFFER

**REPORT OF THE DELEGATES TO THE FEDERAL COUNCIL
OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA**

1934

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: When the Federal Council met in Indianapolis in December, 1932, it made a number of changes in its Constitution and By-Laws, whereby the denominational representation was greatly decreased and when it was also decided to have biennial instead of quadrennial meetings; also to eliminate the Administrative Committee and give greater powers to the Executive Committee, which meets monthly or at the call of the President. Dr. Albert W. Bevan was elected President at Indianapolis for a term of two years. The next meeting of the Council will be held in Dayton, Ohio in December, 1934. The Council met in special session in Washington in December, 1933, in celebration of its Twenty-fifth Anniversary. The President of the United States honored the Council by his presence and by delivering an address at an evening mass meeting held in the Auditorium at Washington.

Prior to the re-organization of the Council, the delegates from the Reformed Church were as follows:

Term expires 1937

Dr. Paul S. Leinbach	Dr. Charles E. Miller
Dr. Theodore F. Herman	Elder Franklin Brown
Elder Harry E. Paisley	

The following were elected at Akron, Ohio in 1932 for a period of eight years:

Dr. George W. Richards	Dr. Henry J. Christman
Dr. Charles E. Schaeffer	Dr. Henry I. Stahr
Dr. Henry Nevin Kerst	

In accordance with the constitutional changes, the delegation met in Indianapolis and out of its number elected the following as the representatives of the Reformed Church:

Dr. George W. Richards	Dr. Henry Nevin Kerst
Dr. Paul S. Leinbach	Dr. Henry J. Christman
Dr. Charles E. Schaeffer	Dr. Charles E. Miller

At the same meeting the delegation elected Dr. George W. Richards and Dr. Charles E. Schaeffer as the representatives of the denomination on the Executive Committee, with Drs. Paul S. Leinbach and Henry J. Christman as alternates.

It is not necessary to render any detailed account of the operation of the Council. Through various Departments, Commissions and Committees the Council is touching life at many points and is continuing to prove itself an indispensable instrument in the developing of the religious life in America and in coordinating the work of the denominations which constitute the Council.

The annual appropriation voted by the General Synod at Akron was \$3,000. It is desirable that the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States should request the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to continue this relationship with the Council and make provision for its support.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. SCHAEFFER,
Chairman of the Delegation

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ORPHANS' HOMES

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: In view of the near approach of the day of union your Board offers no report, except that this whole matter be referred to some Committee or Board in the program for the new arrangement of all the work of the combined churches.

Respectfully submitted,

SCOTT R. WAGNER, *Chairman*

REPORT OF THE REFORMED CHURCHMEN'S LEAGUE

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: By the grace and goodness of God, the efficient leadership of the Executive Committee and the loyal support of Chapters and Synodical and Classical Committees, the Reformed Churchmen's League has made considerable progress since the meeting of the last General Synod.

The work has expanded into various sections of the Church and is being organized in the various Classes and Synods. Several additional Classical Leagues have been constituted.

A number of Men's Mass Meetings and Conventions have been held and proven the growing and intensified interest of our laymen in the work of the Church and the Kingdom. Our laymen are becoming increasingly active in the local congregations.

We have increased 35 per cent in number of chapters and 40 per cent in membership and now have an enrollment of 100 chapters. We feel confident that this has been a fruit of the growing spiritual life of our laymen.

This growth has been attained in these years of depression when the spirit of initiative was at a low ebb and the men of all classes were tremendously

disheartened. The economic pressure upon our business people and industrial groups, which lessened their earnings and paying capacities, made adequate support of our work utterly impossible. Because of limited finances and support, the promotion and progress of our work has been seriously handicapped. However, it is to the credit of the interested pastors and laymen that the work itself has not been halted or disrupted, but continued with a steady pace.

We are convinced that here is a field of church activity ripe unto the harvesting. Wherever our laymen are properly approached and intelligently and convincingly challenged to participate more actively and productively in the work of Christ and the Church, locally and denominationally, the response has been amazing.

It is the purpose of the League, by way of inspiration, education and association, to create a *spirit of fellowship and a loyalty* to all interests among the men of the Church, so as to give to the entire denominational program, in the local congregation as well as in the wider field of co-operative denominational effort, virility and sustaining power. If we can lift the laymen of our Churches to the heights of interest and enthusiasm, which the reverend clergy possess and loyalty and sacrificially display, develop their latent powers and tremendous capacities for work and leadership and gear these into the denominational machinery and program, the results will be extremely gratifying.

We are persuaded that the time is now ripe, as is clearly demonstrated in the Methodist, Congregational, Baptist, Presbyterian, Lutheran and other Christian Communions, for a spirited advance in the promotion of Men's Work and for a definite challenge for county-wide and world-wide Christian activity.

It is refreshing to note that the Spirit of God is at work among our laymen and those already enlisted in this work and in the Master's Cause, are displaying a fervent and forceful spirit and doing effective work along the whole Christian front.

If this work, now properly launched and firmly established, is to reach out to our more than 100,000 laymen, and the man power of our churches is to be mobilized for service, we should have the prayers, the good-will of the Church at large, and some support.

This support need only be temporary and limited to a small amount, for when once enough men are enlisted and the work more generally organized, the laymen can and will carry on by themselves.

The Executive Committee of our League is already co-operating actively with the Executive Committee of the Evangelical Brotherhood along many lines, and effecting plans to cover the widening areas of our work east and west.

The Reformed Churchmen's League offers to your Reverend Synod the love and loyalty of our men and assures you of their desire to co-operate heartily in whatever plans are made by your Reverend body to advance the work of Christ and His Church.

We request the General Synod to authorize the Executive Committee of the Reformed Churchmen's League as now constituted to continue as the agency for the promotion of the Reformed Churchmen's League until satisfactory plans can be worked out by the League for the eventual unification of Men's Work in the merged Church. The Executive Committee at present consists of the following: M. R. Anspach, Esq., Milton, Pa.; Dr. J. H. Apple, Frederick, Md.; Dr. J. M. G. Darms, Philadelphia; Rev. Charles F. Freeman, Doylestown; E. S. Fretz, Collegeville; Dr. E. M. Hartman, Lancaster; H. C. Knecht, Akron, Ohio; Dr. William E. Lampe, Philadelphia; D. A. Miller, Allentown; Dr. George L. Omwake, Collegeville; Harry E. Paisley, Philadelphia; Hon. D. J. Snyder, Greensburg; Rev. Charles D. Spotts, Lancaster; L. P. Teel, Shippensburg; J. G. Truxal, Esq., Lancaster.

Respectfully submitted,

E. S. FRETZ, President

J. M. G. DARMS, Secretary

REPORT OF THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF GENERAL SYNOD

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: While the report of the Woman's Missionary Society is brief, its work is most important.

The two years that have passed since our last report, have not been marked by new features of work, but rather by steady progress along lines of work already begun. Even though the past years brought difficulties, some outstanding features command our attention and gratitude. First we rejoice in the loyal and consecrated endeavor of our leaders who have faithfully carried on missionary education among our members. Added to this there are others who with true devotion to the Master's work and the Missionary programs of the Church have kept the fires burning by their interest and financial help.

The women of the church have faith and courage to carry on the missionary program even though at times it seems an uphill undertaking.

While in membership, not so much due to lack of interest as finances, we may have decreased in some sections of the Church, we have had new interest and members added in some sections. The interest among the young women and children grows from year to year in Guild and Mission Band work. More and more we realize the need of trained leaders who are willing to give of their time.

Our pledges to the Boards for this past year have again all been met. "Paid in full" may be written on the pages of our ledger.

Our Thankoffering shows substantial increase over the previous year.

During the past year the entire budget of the Indian School at Neillsville, Wisconsin, was assumed and met by the women.

A substantial amount was given toward the erection of the Pleasant Valley Mission Church at Dayton, Ohio. Second Church at Portland, Oregon, was given four gift church building funds. The first \$1,000 Fund being named the Dr. Charles E. Schaeffer Anniversary Fund, in honor of Dr. Schaeffer's 25 years of service as Secretary of the Board of Home Missions. Also in recognition of this service an additional amount of \$848.45 was given for Deaconess work.

Miss Katharine Zierdt and Miss Mary Myers, nurses to China, were granted scholarships to take a course in mid-wifery in Livingston College, London, England, before returning to China. The teachers in the staff at the Indian School are given help for summer school.

Luther said, "The press is God's latest gift to man for spreading the Gospel." The women realize the value of this medium and have contributed to the publishing of missionary literature;—to newspaper Evangelism in Japan, Christian Literature in China, the printing of the monthly Christian Braille magazine, the John Milton Foundation in the U. S.; also in the department of Temperance, Stewardship, Christian Citizenship, as well as promoting a missionary reading course among our women. Increased interest and progress have marked each year of these undertakings.

A \$1,000 insurance policy was written to assist the Home Board in the Debt Liquidation campaign. A brief summary of the disbursements from May 1, 1932 to May 1, 1934 may be of interest.

Home Missions	\$86,749.90
Foreign Missions	84,512.91
Educational Aid	1,374.18
Interdenominational Appropriations	1,805.00
Denominational Appropriations	4,076.39
Promotional Work	\$27,365.52
Books, Printing, etc.	18,389.07

A total of \$224,272.97 disbursed into the channels of Home and Foreign Missionary projects.

The women of our Society have always given worship a foremost place in

their lives, so in planning the 50th anniversary of a four year period of cultivating and quickening of the spiritual life under the challenge, "Here unto have ye been called," has been planned. This is to be carried out with four objectives in view,—first, deepening spiritual life; second, enlarging service; third, strengthening of our organizations; fourth, sharing in possessions. We trust that the carrying out of this program may be a source of untold strength to thousands of individual women and may enable them to do more effective work within the Society and to make a more powerful impact on the life of the Church—that it may give unity, meaning, definiteness, and direction to our personal and group devotional life, is our aim.

The women are eagerly looking forward to the larger work that will be made possible in the near future in the new united church. New fields and larger numbers are inspiring greater interest and zeal. We trust with His help and guidance the coming year may be a year to be glad in, to work and give in, a year for striving but not for sighing; for the time has come when we are ceasing to say that something must be done and are up and doing something, hoping it will lead unto the light.

MRS. F. WILLIAM LEICH, President

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

I. HISTORICAL

On September 28, 1826, "The American Missionary Society of the German Reformed Church" was organized in Frederick, Maryland. Any person on payment of one dollar or more was entitled to membership. From its number this body elected annually a Board of Missions composed of twenty-four persons who attended to practically all the work of the Society. In 1832 the Synod changed the organization and elected a Board of Missions composed of eighteen members. In 1844 the Synod of Ohio and Adjacent States also created a Board of Missions. When the General Synod was organized in November, 1863, this body erected a Board of Home Missions composed of twelve members. The new Board, however, was not constituted until in November, 1865, when the two Synodical Boards transferred their Missions to the same and were dissolved. However, in 1870 the Ohio Synod again elected its own Board of Missions and the Eastern Synod followed by electing its own Board of Missions in 1871. The Board of Home Missions of the General Synod then transferred practically all of its work back to the Synodical Boards, but kept its organization intact. It procured a charter from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1870. In 1889 the Ohio Synod transferred its Missions back to the General Synod's Board, Pittsburgh Synod followed in 1890, and the Eastern and Potomac Synods did likewise in 1892, as did also the Synod of the Interior. The Synod of the Northwest transferred its Home Missions to the General Synod's Board in 1924. Thus the entire Home Mission work of the Reformed Church is now centralized in the Board of Home Missions which is the creature of the General Synod.

II. PERSONNEL

Members of the Board

- Rev. Charles E. Miller, D.D., LL.D., President
- Rev. Frederick C. Seitz, D.D., Vice-President
- Rev. Purd E. Deitz, Recording Secretary
- Rev. Henry Nevin Kerst, D.D.
- Rev. Josias Friedli, D.D.
- Rev. Allan S. Meck, D.D.
- Rev. Calvin M. DeLong, D.D.
- Rev. David Dunn

Elder Emory L. Coblenz, LL.D.
Elder Randolph S. Meck
Elder Maurice G. Lipson
Elder Tillman K. Saylor

Members of the Staff

Rev. Charles E. Schaeffer, D.D., General Secretary
Rev. John C. Horning, D.D., Superintendent of the Central-West Department
Rev. Theodore P. Bolliger, D.D., Superintendent of the Northwest Department
Rev. William F. DeLong, D.D., Superintendent of the Church Building Department
Rev. Edward F. Evermeyer, D.D., Superintendent of the Pacific Coast Department
Elder Joseph S. Wise, Treasurer
Elder Bruce A. Metzger, Attorney

In addition to the Departments mentioned above, the Board maintained the following which are centered in the office of the General Secretary:

*Department of the East.
The Immigrant Department.
The Department of Country Life.
The Department of Evangelism.
*The Commission on Social Service.
The Department of Missionary Education, conducted jointly by the Boards of Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Christian Education and by the Woman's Missionary Society, and is in charge of Mr. Charles M. LeGally.

The Board joins with the Board of Foreign Missions and the Woman's Missionary Society in the publication of the monthly Missionary magazine, "The Outlook of Missions."

III. MISSIONS ON THE ROLL

	No. of Missions	Member- ship	S. S. Enrollment
Ohio Synod	9	1,446	2,456
Midwest Synod	11	1,431	1,588
Pittsburgh Synod	10	1,808	1,675
Potomac Synod	15	2,944	2,225
Eastern Synod	19	4,475	4,219
Department of the Northwest	59	5,472	3,767
Department of the Pacific Coast.....	5	397	500
Hungarian	47	4,001	2,027
Bohemian	1	90	58
	176	22,064	18,515

Number of Missionaries (including Deaconesses, Missionary-at-large, Harbor Missionary) 135.

Nationalities served: English, German, Hungarian, Japanese, Bohemian and Indian.

Number of Missions which went to self-support since last report, 27.

* Served by the Rev. James M. Mullan, D.D., until his death, August 21st, 1933.

IV. CHURCH-BUILDING FUNDS

These Funds, consisting of \$500 and more each, were started in 1886. The Board up to April 1, 1934, has 1,236 Church-building Funds, totaling \$845,500, of which amount \$185,500 must be deducted for Gift Church-building Funds which have been given to Missions as specified by the donors, leaving \$660,000 as the value of the Loan Church-building Funds.

LEGACIES ARRANGED BY TRIENNIAWS

In 1887	\$1,255.31
1890	500.00
1893	1,975.00
1896	5,171.80
1899	12,723.75
1902	2,807.05
1905	3,674.82
1908	10,104.20
1911	23,141.42
1914	20,114.25
1917	32,036.50
1920	33,933.28
1923	65,222.92
1926	34,060.40
1929	17,055.35
1932	31,566.61
1933	27,606.82
	<hr/>
	\$322,949.48

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS ARRANGED BY TRIENNIAWS, GENERAL AND
CHURCH BUILDING DEPARTMENTS

1826 to 1863 (approximately).....	\$50,000.00
1863 to 1866	25,780.00
1866 to 1869	57,844.00
1869 to 1872	42,761.00
1872 to 1875	44,000.00
1875 to 1878	46,039.00
1878 to 1881	55,039.00
1881 to 1884	77,990.00
1884 to 1887	105,039.00
1887 to 1890	142,761.00
1890 to 1893	149,793.00
1893 to 1896	172,476.00
1896 to 1899	229,918.00
1899 to 1902	195,245.00
1902 to 1905	233,722.00
1905 to 1908	297,370.00
1908 to 1911	317,029.00
1911 to 1914	503,724.00
1914 to 1917	550,040.00
1917 to 1920	699,535.00
1920 to 1923	1,177,575.00
1923 to 1926	1,315,501.00
*1926 to 1929 (2 years and 9 months).....	1,121,940.00
1929 to 1932	1,151,777.00
1932 to 1934 (2 years).....	543,542.00
	<hr/>
	\$9,306,440.00

* Due to change of fiscal year.

V. THE REPORT OF TREASURER JOSEPH S. WISE
FROM JANUARY 1, 1932 TO DECEMBER 31, 1933

GENERAL FUND

Receipts

Cash Balance January 1, 1932.....	\$12,210.26
Apportionment	\$316,910.82
Woman's Missionary Society General Synod.....	60,508.96
Home Mission Days	18,739.31
Emergency Fund	26,551.48
Debt Liquidation Fund	26,711.08
Miscellaneous, Specials	8,307.18
	<hr/>
	457,728.83
	<hr/>
	\$469,939.09

Expenditures

Apportionment Transfer to Church Building Dept... Paid on Account Missionary Salaries, including Staff and Office Force	\$45,500.00 262,958.35
Grants to Missions, Catawba College and Debt Liquidation Fund	35,951.46
Indian School	\$16,202.17
Less Notes discounted for School.....	9,500.00
	<hr/>
Executive and Departmental Expense (not including salaries)	6,702.17 30,358.50
Interest on Bank Loans	23,817.10
	<hr/>
	\$405,287.58
Bank loans reduced	31,790.00
Net loans to Church Building Department.....	26,700.00
Advanced for Coupons	1,557.27
	<hr/>
	465,334.85
Cash Balance January 1, 1934	\$4,604.24

CHURCH BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Receipts

Cash Balance January 1, 1932.....	\$10,013.98
Unassigned Legacies	\$12,284.41
Interest on Loans to Missions.....	8,440.88
Church-Building Funds (includes \$6,000.00 Gift Funds from W. M. S.).....	30,746.13
Debt Liquidation Fund	28,000.00
Emergency Fund	5,515.00
Miscellaneous	827.63
	<hr/>
	\$85,814.05
Collected on Principal of Investments	52,995.71
Apportionment from General Fund	45,500.00
	<hr/>
Net Loans from General Fund.....	184,309.76 26,700.00
	<hr/>
	\$221,023.74

Expenditures

Interest and Annuities	\$89,413.90
Home Mission Day and Grants	16,208.77
Investments (Loans to Missions)	\$53,848.27
Insurance, Expense, etc.	532.92
	<hr/>
	\$160,003.86
	<hr/>
Bank Loans Reduced	\$53,561.64
Bonds Reduced	1,494.12
Refunds and Exchange of Checks	50.32
	<hr/>
	55,106.08
Cash Balance, January 1, 1934	<hr/> \$5,913.80

COMBINED AND CONDENSED STATEMENT

JANUARY 1, 1934

Resources

Cash	\$8,010.38
Cash in Debt Liquidation Fund	2,514.08
Cash in Parkway Trust Company (Frozen)	2,869.81
Real Estate owned by Board	322,000.00
Accounts Receivable (open accounts due Board)	2,384.45
Debt Liquidation Fund (unpaid subscriptions)	96,030.08
Notes Receivable (Notes due Board)	5,750.00
Office Furniture and Supplies	5,000.00
Investments (Loans to Missions)	1,383,873.49
Gift Funds	575.12
Post Mortuary Notes (Notes payable after the death of maker)	<hr/> 8,500.00
	\$1,837,507.41

Liabilities

Notes to individuals and W .M. S.	\$211,639.68
Coupon Bonds	351,300.00
Accounts Payable (Unpaid Home Mission Day Offerings)	13,901.32
Arrearages on Salaries	137,928.96
Notes Payable to Banks	<hr/> 598,904.01
	\$1,313,673.97

Net Worth of Board..... \$523,833.44

VI. THE COMMISSION ON SOCIAL SERVICE

The Commission on Social Service, which is appointed by the Board of Home Missions, consists of the following members:

Prof. E. E. Kresge, *Chairman*.
Rev. David Dunn
Rev. C. J. Snyder
Rev. John Sommerlatte
Elder J. Franklin Meyer
Elder Ewald Haase

Dr. James M. Mullan served as the Secretary of the Commission until his death August 21, 1933. Since then the Commission has had only one meeting. It has issued no pronouncements on social problems of today since the meeting of the General Synod at Akron.

The Commission, however, is co-operating with the Social Service Committees in the respective Synods and these Synodical Committees have made

strong deliverances to their respective bodies on modern social, economic and national problems. They have issued statements on the attitude of the Church on militarism and especially on what constitutes a "Conscientious Objector," and the Commission on Social Service refers the General Synod to these Synodical actions as expressions of its own mind on these matters.

VII. IN CONCLUSION

In making this final report to the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, the Board of Home Missions wishes to record its sense of gratitude to the great Head of the Church for His unfailing guidance and manifold blessings in the furtherance of this work through more than a century of years, and to the pastors and people of our beloved Reformed Church for their co-operation in and support of a work which during the years has meant so much for the progress and extension of our Church and of the Kingdom of God in our country. With the same faith and courage which has characterized our labors in the past, we turn our faces to the future and pray for greater and better things in the new organization into which we are about to enter.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. MILLER, *President*

CHARLES E. SCHAEFFER, *General Secretary*

REPORT OF THE WORK OF THE CHAPLAINS AND OF THE MEMORIAL CHURCH AT CHATEAU THIERRY, FRANCE

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: The General Synod at Akron in 1932 assigned this work for administration to the Board of Home Missions. There are three Chaplains from the Reformed Church: one in the Army, Rev. Paul B. Rupp; one in the Navy Rev. Herbert Dumstrey; and the Rev. Edwin B. Harp, Jr., in the U. S. S. Relief Pacific Fleet. In accordance with the instructions of the General Synod, Treasurer Warner has sent \$775.00 for the use of the Chaplains from January 1, 1932 to December 31, 1933.

With regard to the Memorial Church at Chateau Thierry, the Rev. M. Faivre is the present pastor, who will be glad to receive visitors from America and show them the building. In June, 1933, Treasurer Warner sent \$200.00 to the Treasurer, Francois Octobon, which was used for repairs to the Church edifice.

We recommend that the present arrangement continue, that the Fund be kept intact and that the proceeds be used for the up-keep of the Memorial Church building as may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. SCHAEFFER, *Chairman*

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE TREASURER OF THE NATIONAL SERVICE COMMISSION

APRIL 1, 1929—DECEMBER 31, 1931

Balance April 1, 1929	\$5,576.39
<i>Receipts</i>	
Interest from Board Home Missions	\$775.50
Interest on Bank Account	19.63
War Emergency Campaign Fund received from Mr. Paisley	91.75
	886.88
<i>Expenditures</i>	
Dr. Gabriel Vernier—Chateau Thierry, France	\$600.00
	600.00
Balance	\$5,863.27

Invested as Follows

Balance in Parkway Trust Company 9/1/31	\$459.77
20 per cent distribution received 12/1/31	91.95
Balance in Parkway Trust Company 12/31/31	\$367.82
Balance in General Synod account with Market Street	
National Bank—12/31/31	295.45
Board of Home Missions	5,200.00

	\$5,863.27

MILTON WARNER,
Treasurer

The foregoing report, printed in the Blue Book for the Triennial Meeting in 1932, was inadvertently omitted in the Minutes of the General Synod. J. R. S.

Financial Statement

JANUARY 1, 1932 TO DECEMBER 31, 1933

Balance January 1, 1932	\$5,863.27
Interest from Board of Home Missions	\$143.00

	143.00

	\$6,006.27

Expenditures

M. Francois Octobon, Treasurer, Chateau Thierry, France	\$200.00

	200.00

	\$5,806.27

Invested as follows

Balance in Parkway Trust Company 1/1/32	\$367.82
15% received—3/7/32	\$68.96
15% received—9/16/32	68.96
7½% received—4/10/33	34.48

	172.40
Balance in Parkway Trust Company 12/31/33	\$195.42
Balance in General Synod account with Market Street	
National Bank 12/31/33	410.85
Board of Home Missions	5,200.00

	\$5,806.27

MILTON WARNER,
Treasurer

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: The report of the Board of Foreign Missions to the General Synod is prepared by the Secretary, but in this one, as the president of the Board, I desire a paragraph of my own. Since our last report to the General Synod, our great Secretary for more than thirty-one years, Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew, went to his reward. And what a reward! He earned the undying approbation and gratitude of the Reformed Church for his heroic, self-sacrificing and indefatigable labors in laying foundations for the Gospel in three fields—Japan, China and Mesopotamia—and in rearing in each a superstructure which it would be a tragedy and a reproach to abandon or forsake. We may be sure, also, that he received the "Well done, good and faithful servant!" of the Master whom he served. The Board was under the necessity of electing an immediate successor and, in the Providence of God, the man was already prepared for the emergency that had arisen. There is every indication from the reports of the Home Church and the Foreign

Field, that the election of Dr. A. V. Casselman to the Secretaryship of the Board of Foreign Missions has the approval of God and man. With a breadth of comprehension of the task, with a courage that has no fear, with an industry that knows no rest, with a sympathetic understanding of the problems of the minister and of the missionary, and with the determination that the Church shall go forward and not backward until her task is done, he has taken the reins of leadership of our foreign mission enterprise into his hands and during these days of crisis and transition the Board commends him to the confidence of the Church and to the prayers and undivided support of all our people.

CHARLES E. CREITZ

HISTORICAL STATEMENT

In the year 1837, the "Synod of the German Reformed Church in the United States of North America," at its meeting held in Sunbury, Pennsylvania, appointed a Committee whose duty it was to collect all useful facts concerning the formation of a Foreign Missionary Society. The organization of the Board took place at the meeting of the Synod held in Lancaster, Pa., in the year 1838. Efforts by the Board to secure a foreign missionary proved unsuccessful. Fortunately a child of our own Church, the Rev. Benjamin Schneider, of Pottstown, Pa., had given his life to God for the winning of Turkey for Christ. He was the founder of the Aintab Station in Turkey. From the years 1840 to 1865, our Church was a regular contributor to the American Board. The gifts, amounting to about \$28,000, were devoted towards the support of Missionary Schneider and his work.

In 1867, the Rev. Oscar Lohr, pastor of the German Reformed Church of New Brunswick, N. J., was sent by the German Evangelical Missionary Society in the United States to India. This Society, at the time, was composed of several denominations—Dutch Reformed, German Evangelical, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Moravian, and German Reformed. Mr. Lohr had as his associate, the Rev. Jacob Hauser, and through the earnest labors of these two brethren the Mission at Bisrampur was founded. Our Church had the opportunity to take over this work when the Society itself ceased, but failed to do so. Of special interest today is the fact that this is now the mission of the Evangelical Synod of North America.

Until the year 1879 we did not have a foreign mission of our own, nor a foreign missionary whom we could call our own. The Board met in the Second Reformed Church, Harrisburg, Pa., on September 30, 1878, where, after a full and free discussion, Japan was chosen as the field for our foreign missionary work, and the Rev. Ambrose D. Gring was elected as our first missionary. The young missionary with his wife arrived in Yokohama, June 1, 1879. Tokyo, the capital city, became the first center of the labors of our missionaries. Our second missionary to Japan, in 1883, was the Rev. Jairus P. Moore, who also located in Tokyo. A year after the arrival of the third missionary, Rev. William E. Hoy in 1885, our Mission united with the Church of Christ in Japan, composed of all the Presbyterian and Reformed Churches.

This union and with it the selection of Sendai in North Japan as the center of our operations, led the Mission to change its policy from that of engaging solely in evangelistic work to that of establishing schools where young men and women might receive a Christian training. In the year 1886, Miss Lizzie R. Poorbaugh and Miss Mary B. Ault, now Mrs. William E. Hoy, were sent by the Board to begin a school for young women, now known as Miyagi College. Simultaneously, with the founding of this Girls' School, Messrs. Hoy and Oshikawa began an educational work in the interests of young men. This modest work was the beginning of the Sendai Theological Training School, which has since grown into the flourishing North Japan College, of which Dr. David B. Schneder is President. In the midst of this establishing of educational institutions the work of evangelism went steadily on. To be loyal

to the Great Commission the Church must ever regard evangelism as her chief concern. Our educational work has always been carried on with the primary purpose of training men and women for active Christian service as well as the development of Christian character.

At the meeting of the General Synod, held at Tiffin, Ohio, 1899, the authority was given the Board to establish the China Mission. After spending fourteen years in our Japan Mission, Rev. William E. Hoy, D.D., was providentially led to China, and began work at Yochow, in 1900, in the same humble way as he had at Sendai. We have two central stations, Yochow and Shenchow, about 350 miles apart. These cities are located in the Province of Hunan, as Philadelphia and Pittsburgh are in Pennsylvania. Yochow is the center of our school, chapel and hospital work. The Huping Boys' Middle School is five miles distant from the city. The grounds cover about twenty-five acres. The Ziemer Memorial Girls' School in the city has a good-sized compound, and a fine building. The David Schneder Hoy Memorial Hospital had as its founder, our first medical missionary, Dr. J. Albert Beam. At Shenchow we have three fine compounds with churches, schools and hospital. Our Boys' School at Shenchow is known as the Eastview Boys' School, while the name of the school for girls is Chen Teh Girls' School. The hospital at Shenchow has the interesting name of Abounding Grace Hospital. In connection with these educational and medical institutions at Yochow and Shenchow the evangelistic work has been prosecuted with wisdom and zeal by all of our missionaries whether they have been preachers, teachers or physicians. The "Church of Christ in China" was organized in Shanghai in 1927, representing sixteen denominations. Our Mission in China is affiliated with the Church of Christ in China.

For years it had been the policy of the Board to open a mission somewhere in the Moslem world. This ideal became a reality in 1923 when the Joint Committee for a United Mission in Mesopotamia was organized in New York City by representatives of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., the Reformed Church in America and our own Reformed Church. The United Mission in Mesopotamia was organized in Baghdad in 1924. Dr. and Mrs. C. K. Staudt, our first missionaries to the Moslem world, arrived on the field and located in the city of Baghdad in this year 1924. The American School for Boys was founded in 1925 and rapidly grew to a place of prominence in the life of the new nation of Iraq.

In all of our missionary work the Woman's Missionary Society of General Synod has been a constant aid and inspiration. Organized on June 2, 1887, the Woman's Missionary Society in all of these years has contributed to the Board of Foreign Missions a little more than \$1,000,000.00. Much of the work of the Board would have been impossible without the help of this devoted group of loyal church women.

BOARD PERSONNEL

Membership. Term 1929-1935. Rev. George W. Richards, D.D., Rev. Frederick Mayer, D.D., Rev. E. F. Hoffmeier, D.D., Rev. Albert B. Bauman, D.D., Elder David A. Miller, Elder William W. Anspach, Elder J. Q. Truxal, Elder Edward S. Fretz.

Term 1932-1938. Rev. Charles E. Creitz, D.D., Rev. William F. Kosman, D.D., Rev. Calvin M. Zenk, Elder Henry C. Heckerman, Elder John B. Mohler, Elder E. Fred Bloemker.

Officers. President, Rev. Charles E. Creitz, D.D., Reading, Pa.; Vice-President, Elder Henry C. Heckerman, Bedford, Pa.; Secretary, Rev. Arthur V. Casselman, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa.; Assistant Secretary, Rev. John H. Poorman, Philadelphia, Pa.; Treasurer, Rev. Jacob G. Rupp, D.D., Allentown, Pa.

Executive Committee. Rev. Charles E. Creitz, D.D., Elder Henry C. Heckerman, Rev. Arthur V. Casselman, D.D., Rev. Jacob G. Rupp, D.D., Rev. George W. Richards, D.D., Elder David A. Miller, Elder J. Q. Truxal.

Field Secretaries. Rev. Jacob G. Rupp, D.D., Allentown, Pa.; Rev. Daniel Burghalter, D.D., Tiffin, Ohio.

MISSIONARY PERSONNEL

The missionaries of the Reformed Church in the employ of the Board at the present time are listed below in the order of their seniority of service.

Japan: Dr. Jairus P. Moore, retired, Lansdale, Pa.; Dr. and Mrs. David B. Schneder, Sendai; Dr. and Mrs. Henry K. Miller, Tokyo; Dr. and Mrs. Christopher Noss, Wakamatsu; Dr. and Mrs. Paul L. Gerhard, Sendai; Miss B. Catherine Pifer, Tokyo; Dr. and Mrs. William G. Seiple, Sendai; Miss Mary E. Gerhard, Sendai; Dr. and Mrs. Elmer H. Zaugg, Sendai; Dr. Kate I. Hansen, Sendai; Miss Lydia A. Lindsay, Sendai; Rev. and Mrs. Carl D. Kriete, Sendai; Rev. and Mrs. Alfred Ankeney, Sendai; Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Nicodemus, Sendai; Mr. and Mrs. Oscar M. Stoudt, Sendai; Rev. and Mrs. Frank L. Fesperman, Sendai; Rev. and Mrs. W. Carl Nugent, Yamagata; Rev. and Mrs. George S. Noss, Aomori; Rev. and Mrs. Gilbert W. Schroer, Morioka; Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Gerhard, Sendai; Rev. and Mrs. Marcus J. Engelmann, Wakamatsu; Miss Harriet P. Smith, Sendai; Mr. Charles M. LeGalley, Sendai; Miss Mary E. Hoffman, Sendai; Mr. and Mrs. Carl S. Sipple, Sendai; Miss Helen Hanold, Sendai; Miss Mattie E. Peterson, Sendai; Miss Margaret Garman, Sendai.

China: Mrs. Mary B. Hoy, Yochow; Dr. and Mrs. Paul E. Keller, Wu-chang; Rev. and Mrs. J. Frank Bucher, Shenchow; Rev. and Mrs. Edwin A. Beck, Yochow; Miss Alice E. Traub, Yochow; Miss Gertrude B. Hoy, Yochow; Rev. and Mrs. Karl H. Beck, Yochow; Miss Mary E. Myers, Yochow; Miss Minerva S. Weil, Shenchow; Rev. and Mrs. George Randolph Snyder, Shenchow; Rev. and Mrs. Sterling W. Whitener, Yochow; Miss A. Katharine Zierdt, Shenchow; Rev. and Mrs. Jesse B. Yaukey, Yochow; Miss Erna J. Flatter, Yochow; Dr. and Mrs. Paul V. Taylor, Wuchang; Rev. and Mrs. Theophilus F. Hilgeman, Shenchow; Mr. John D. Beck, Peiping; Miss Helen E. Brown, Peiping.

Mesopotamia: Dr. and Mrs. Calvin K. Staudt, Baghdad; Rev. and Mrs. Jefferson C. Glessner, Kirkuk; Rev. and Mrs. David D. Baker, Baghdad.

Released: It is with the deepest regret that on account of the decreased income we announce that the Board has been compelled to release from its service the following missionaries: Rev. and Mrs. I. G. Nace, Professor and Mrs. Arthur D. Smith, Rev. and Mrs. F. Nelsen Schlegel and Miss Effie May Honse. Professor Charles M. LeGalley has been assigned to the Department of Missionary Education.

Deaths: The Board reports with deep sorrow the death of two of our younger women missionaries, Miss Sara E. Krick, of our China Mission on January 20, 1933; and Miss Mary E. Schneder of our Japan Mission on April 12, 1934. Miss Krick was one of our most capable and faithful nurses in the Hoy Memorial Hospital at Yochow and Miss Schneder was an equally capable and faithful teacher of music in Miyagi College, Sendai.

STATISTICAL STATEMENT OF WORK

JAPAN

Missionaries: retired, 1; ordained, 13; unordained, 5; wives, 17; women teachers, 8; women evangelists, 1; total, 45.

Japanese Workers: ordained evangelists, 36; unordained evangelists, 35; men teachers, 91; women teachers, 21; women evangelists, 21; kindergartners, 22; other workers, 22; total, 248.

Churches and Institutions: organized churches, 52; other places of meeting, 108; communicant members, 6,798; adult baptisms last year, 483; Sunday Schools, 146; Sunday School enrollment, 10,633; theological seminaries, 1; students in same, 34; boarding schools, 2; students, 1,355; kindergartens, 10; pupils, 288.

Colleges and Schools: North Japan College at Sendai: Faculty, Americans 11; Japanese 77; students 981; graduated 2,486. Miyagi College, Sendai: Faculty, Americans 8; Japanese 35; students 374; graduated 1,316.

CHINA

Missionaries: ordained, 9; unordained, 1; wives, 9; nurses, 3; women teachers, 4; women evangelists, 1; total, 27.

Chinese Workers: ordained evangelists, 5; unordained evangelists, 34; men teachers, 65; women teachers, 16; women evangelists, 18; physicians, 2; nurses, 6; total, 146.

Churches and Institutions: organized churches, 7; other places of meeting, 30; communicant members, 747; adult baptisms last year, 141; Sunday Schools, 19; Sunday School enrollment, 1,047; theological seminaries, 1; students in same, 4; boarding schools, 4; students, 601; day schools, 14; pupils, 537; kindergartens, 2; pupils, 57; hospitals and dispensaries, 5; in-patients, 742; dispensary treatments, 20,462.

Schools: Huping Boys' Middle School, Yochow: Teachers, 18; students, 116. Ziener Memorial Girls' Middle School, Yochow: Teachers, 15; students, 174. Eastview Boys' School, Shenchow: Teachers, 11; students, 187. Chen Teh Girls' School, Shenchow: Teachers, 7; students, 124. Primary Schools: Teachers, 38; students, 537.

Union Educational Institutions, with which our Church co-operates: Central China Union Theological Seminary, Central China College, both at Wuchang; Ya-li Union Boys' School and Fuh Siang Girls' School, both at Changsha.

Medical Work: Hoy Memorial Hospital, Yochow; Abounding Grace Hospital, Shenchow.

UNITED MISSION IN MESOPOTAMIA

Missionaries: ordained, 1; wives, 1; total, 2.

Native Workers: ordained evangelists, 4; unordained evangelists, 7; women teachers, 7; total, 18.

Churches and Institutions: organized churches, 2; other places of meeting, 11; communicant members, 295; adult baptisms last year, 14; Sunday Schools, 3; Sunday School enrollment, 172; boarding schools, 1; students, 6; day schools, 2; pupils, 162.

AMERICAN SCHOOL FOR BOYS, BAGHDAD

Missionaries: ordained, 2; wives, 2; total, 4.

Native Workers: men teachers, 15; women teachers, 2; total, 17.

Students: 420.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1932 AND 1933

	<i>Income</i>	
	1932	1933
Apportionment	\$183,229.01	\$134,579.65
Specials	13,376.74	16,213.32
Woman's Missionary Society.	42,639.28	42,001.64
Bequests	11,669.00	20,683.12
Annuities	9,800.00	7,430.00
Foreign Mission Day.....	10,904.18	9,073.38
Miscellaneous Contributions ..	23,120.64	1,781.54
	<hr/> \$294,738.85	<hr/> \$231,762.65

<i>Expenditures</i>		
	1932	1933
Foreign Department	\$255,333.06	\$190,810.45
Home Department	30,098.51	28,478.03
Co-operative Departments....	2,533.52	1,016.32
Interest	21,478.23	21,998.57
Shiogama Chapel	500.00	
	<hr/> \$310,430.68	<hr/> \$242,928.37
Expenditures in Excess of Income.....	\$15,691.83	\$11,165.72

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, JANUARY 1 TO APRIL 30, 1934

The financial statement for the first four months of the current year is most encouraging. The receipts from regular sources for the working budget of the Board were \$80,864.83, while the regular budget expenditures were \$70,801.97, showing thus an income in excess of expenditures of \$10,062.86. The total receipts for the first four months from all sources were \$92,800.04. On May 1st there was a cash balance of \$19,980.90.

Value of Mission Property

Japan: \$1,847,215.00; China: \$315,836.00; Total: \$2,163,051.00.

STATEMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS, DECEMBER 30, 1933

<i>Liabilities</i>		
Bank Notes	\$140,000.00	
Demand Notes	120,296.46	
Due North Japan College.....	541.46	
Due American Boys' School	5,297.75	
Bills Payable	3,275.19	
Unpaid Salaries	976.00	
Budget—United Mission	2,916.68	
Loans in Japan	12,177.29	
Deficit in Japan, December 30	36,822.71	
Shiogama Chapel	500.00	
	<hr/> \$322,803.54	
<i>Assets</i>		
Cash on Hand	\$10,023.08	
Loans to Missionaries	5,368.70	
	<hr/> 15,591.78	
	<hr/> \$307,211.76	

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION

The receipts of the Board for the years 1932 and 1933 were distressingly small. They were as follows:

Total Receipts—1932: \$294,738.85 Apportionment—1932: \$183,229.01
1933: 231,762.65 1933: 134,579.65

In the meantime the debt of the Board had been increasing until it had reached the limit. Two grim realities faced the Board: the fact that the Board had reached the limit of its credit and could not borrow any more funds, and the fact that the debt had reached such alarming proportions that there could be no thought of further enlarging it. At the semi-annual meeting of the Board last November the situation was squarely faced and the Board with sincere sorrow but with courage necessitated by the situation made drastic cuts in the 1934 budgets, amounting in all cases to 40% and in some cases to 50%. The spirit in which this cut was received by the officials at home and

the missionaries on the field should be an inspiration to the Church. Like the men and women of the conviction and courage that they are, they all set themselves with heroic sacrifice and devotion to meet the reduced budget. The work is being crippled everywhere and the workers are living on a less than efficiency scale. As an emergency expedient our work, for the most part, can be saved by this effort this year, but it is impossible for this sacrifice to be made another year.

A PLAN FOR FINANCIAL SALVATION

In order to meet this situation the first five months of 1934 have been set apart for the primary emphasis on the work of the Board in an endeavor to reduce its indebtedness. The plan of operation is three-fold: first, to secure a number of large gifts from people who are able to give them; second, to secure special gifts of \$100 to \$500 from congregations able and willing to contribute these amounts in addition to their regular benevolences; third, to secure a large number of gifts from the great mass of our people. Considering the present financial crisis, commendable progress has been made in the last two months on this plan and the Board appeals for the loyal co-operation of the Church in the continued support of this effort to cancel the indebtedness of the Board.

THE TURN OF THE TIDE

It is with great joy that the Board reports to the Synod that the financial report for the first quarter of the year 1934 contained a sentence which has not been found in the reports for years. It reads as follows: "Income in Excess of Expenditures, \$8,345.09." The report for April is even better. It reads: "Income in Excess of Expenditures, \$10,062.86." We believe this is the turn of the tide. Our missionaries have all been paid their salaries for these months. The Board has balanced its budget. In all fairness, however, it must be said that this desired result has been achieved not so much by the liberality of the Church as by the sacrifice of her missionaries. Nevertheless, the feat has been accomplished and we believe that future years will reveal this as one of the turning points in the missionary history of the Reformed Church. In addition to this happy result the Board has paid on its debt in the first four months of 1934, \$11,638.71 and had a cash balance on hand on April 30th of \$19,980.90. Since the first of May, \$15,000.00 of this amount has been applied to a further reduction of our indebtedness. This reduces the total indebtedness of the Board, including the deficit in Japan of last year, to \$280,335.41.

THE FUTURE POLICY

The financial plan and policy for the future of our foreign mission work as it may be influenced by our Board is this:

1. By the exercise of every economy at home and abroad, and by the elimination of every unessential, to try to hold the work we have.
2. To hold the work right there until we get out of debt.
3. To accumulate a reserve fund to render impossible a similar situation in the future.
4. Then, while living within our income, to lead the Church into a constant, healthy, well-founded and adequately-supported advance in extending and enlarging the work.

MISSIONARY EDUCATION

At no time in the history of the Board has missionary education been so necessary as right now. It is a pleasure to report that Professor Charles M. LeGalley of North Japan College, who is home on furlough at the present time, has been assigned to the Department of Missionary Education for the coming year. This is an especially happy choice since the foreign theme for interdenominational mission-study during the coming year is "Japan."

An efficient instrument of missionary education is "The Outlook of Missions." We commend "The Outlook of Missions" anew to the members of the churches for a more intelligent understanding of the work of Missions.

A FINAL REQUEST

Aside from the assurance of hearty support and loyal co-operation in its work, the Board has but one recommendation it asks from the Church at this time and that is that the Board may be granted permission to pursue its present plan for the reduction of the debt until the whole of the indebtedness of the Board has been eliminated.

With humble but hearty thanksgiving to God for what the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church has been permitted to accomplish in the past and with prayer that the prospect of even greater work for the extension of our Lord's Kingdom in the united Evangelical and Reformed Church may be gloriously realized, this our final report is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES E. CREITZ, President
ARTHUR V. CASSELMAN, Secretary

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AMORTIZATION OF
THE DEBTS OF THE BOARDS OF HOME MISSIONS
AND FOREIGN MISSIONS**

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: Your Committee, appointed according to the wording of the General Synod's resolutions for the purpose of "devising ways and means to amortize the debts of the Boards of Home and Foreign Missions," begs to report as follows:

In the first place, your Committee has tried to interpret its function in the light of the facts and the circumstances of the situation, and the import of General Synod's resolution rather than a literal interpretation of its wording. When the members of the Committee accepted their appointment it was expressly stated by officers of the General Synod that the Committee would not be charged "to inaugurate a debt raising campaign, but rather be charged with the study of the best and wisest procedure in the whole matter and at the time and in the way it meets their best judgment to lead the Church in such an effort." In the light of this position your Committee has, therefore, construed its function as a co-operative factor between the Boards and the Church with a view to help in promoting the understanding and co-operation between Boards and Church without which the best plans that may be devised cannot succeed.

After a study of the finances of the two Boards and conference with their Secretaries we forwarded a communication to the Missionary and Stewardship Committees of the Classes in the fall of 1932. Your Committee assured the Church, through these Committees, that the Boards of Home and Foreign Missions were doing their utmost, under very trying circumstances, in a way that should challenge the fullest confidence of the Church.

In the month of December, 1933, our committee forwarded another communication to the Church by means of our Church periodicals, stating the policies of both Boards, making a challenge for a more generous support for the work of Missions, and setting apart the first Sunday in the year 1934 as a Day of Prayer in behalf of the work of all the Boards of our Church.

The Board of Home Missions is promoting the Mortgage Redemption Plan as a means of paying the debt of the Board. The plan has met with signal success and additional insurance is being written from time to time. The goal is set at \$300,000.00. Of this amount of insurance the sum of \$218,750.00 was written by April 10, 1934, and \$129,975.34 was received in cash or its equivalent. Eight congregations, that are or were missions under the Board, where money, advanced by the Board, was invested, have by this same plan underwritten in insurance their debts to the Board to the amount of \$158,200.00, the congre-

gations paying the premiums. In addition to the \$158,200.00, now underwritten, an additional \$350,000 is in process of being underwritten, that is, a number of congregations owing that amount to the Board have now the matter under consideration and will act upon it in the near future. The Board accepts this insurance as a sinking fund to be used for the redemption of the bonded indebtedness which money was invested in these Mission Churches. It is the conviction of your Committee that when persons die who have been insured through the Mortgage Redemption Plan for churches or missions on account of indebtedness to the Board of Home Missions, the amounts coming to the Board of Home Missions should be put into a sinking fund to retire the bonded indebtedness of the Board.

Furthermore, the missionaries themselves have accepted insurance to the sum of \$60,000, most of which was taken in lieu of salaries due them. The Mortgage Redemption Plan is being applied in the above three ways, namely, the liquidation of the debt in the General Treasury, the payment of the debts Mission Churches owe the Board, and the payment of salaries the Board owes the missionaries. This plan of financing the debt of the Board of Home Missions was adopted at an opportune time. The plan is meeting with a welcome response on the part of the Church and your committee commends the plan to the generosity of our people. The Mortgage Redemption Plan is commended solely as an emergency measure. The debt in the General Treasury of the Board of Home Missions on April 1, 1934, amounted to \$278,000.00.

The Board of Home Missions is to be commended that on the approximately one-half million dollars of bonded indebtedness it succeeded in having the interest reduced from five per cent to three per cent and in some cases to three and one-half per cent. This saving was made possible through agreement with the bond holders.

The Board of Foreign Missions inaugurated a campaign with the hope of liquidating its debt. The Committee gave its approval to the plan that the first five months of 1934 be set apart by the Church for primary emphasis of the work of the Board of Foreign Missions in an endeavor to reduce the indebtedness of the Board before the consummation of the union with the Evangelical Synod of North America. The plan of operation in this effort is three-fold; first, to secure a number of large gifts from people who are able to give them; second, to secure special gifts of from \$100 to \$500 from congregations able and willing to contribute these amounts in addition to their regular benevolences; third, to secure a large number of small gifts from the great mass of our people. In the promotion of this plan special emphasis was to be laid on the observance of Foreign Mission Day. The Board of Foreign Missions has decided that the first one hundred thousand dollars raised through this plan shall be designated as a Memorial Fund to Dr. Allen R. Bartholomew.

The Committee rejoices that for the first quarter of the current year the receipts of the Board of Foreign Missions were in excess of the expenditures by \$8,345.00. The sum of \$10,438 was paid on the debt the first quarter of the current year, leaving the indebtedness of the Board of Foreign Missions on April 1, 1934, at \$303,328. On the indebtedness, between \$30,000 and \$40,000 was in sight April 1, 1934. Efforts are being made to underwrite this debt to the amount of \$200,000 by the time of the meeting of General Synod.

Your Committee suggests that any undesignated special gifts or legacies for either of the Boards of Missions should be used to reduce the indebtedness.

We are happy to note that for the year 1933 the income of both Boards was above their estimates. The debt raising projects of both Boards have the hearty endorsement of your Committee and we bespeak the generous support of the Church for them.

Respectfully submitted,

ALLAN S. MECK, *Chairman* HARRY E. PAISLEY
PAUL J. DUNDORE, *Secretary* E. M. HARTMAN
R. W. BLEMKER

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: In presenting this our last report to a General Synod of the Reformed Church in the U. S. it may not be inappropriate to include a brief reference to past history and to remind ourselves that the Board of Christian Education is the direct successor of several former boards of the Church, organized from time to time to undertake special responsibilities.

The first of these was the Board of Publication, organized by the General Synod in 1844 to be the denominational publishing house and to serve as the Church's printing establishment. Forty-three years later in 1887 the Sunday School Board of the Reformed Church was established to have general executive oversight over Sunday School work. In 1912 these two Boards were merged into what came to be known thenceforth as the Publication and Sunday School Board. In 1923 still another Board was constituted by the General Synod and named the Board of Christian Education to function in an advisory relationship to the educational institutions of the Church and to concern itself particularly with the training of the future leadership of the Church. In 1929 this last-named Board was merged with the Publication and Sunday School Board under the charter of the latter Board, and is now known as "The Board of Christian Education."

This Board at present serves as the denominational publication board and publishes our weekly Church paper, *The Reformed Church Messenger*, issues the Almanac and Year Book, publishes the Church School periodicals and illustrated story papers and prints and distributes hymnals, catechisms, books and pamphlets, and other publications. Familiarly known as "The Board that Cares for the Children" it furnishes oversight, leadership and guidance in Church School work. It has a co-operative relationship with the Church's educational institutions and has been charged with special responsibilities in young people's and student work and in the training of the future leadership of the Church. It also serves the Church by maintaining a book store and Church supply business and owns and operates for the Reformed Church our denominational headquarters, the Schaff Building, at 1505 Race Street, Philadelphia.

INCREASING DIFFICULTIES

During the past two years the Board has been confronted with increasing difficulties in carrying on its work because of its constantly declining income. The usual receipts from the sales of periodicals, books and Church supplies, the income from rentals in the Schaff Building as well as from benevolent contributions kept falling off from month to month to a marked degree. The following figures contrasting receipts in the three departments of the Board's work during the past three years are of special interest.

	1931	1932	1933
Total Sales (Business Dept.) ..	\$265,461.44	\$249,167.61	\$219,434.36
Rental Income, Schaff Bldg. (Real Estate Dept.)	136,335.02	108,736.35	83,527.05
Apportionment Income (Dept. of Home & Church, and Leadership Training)	42,987.17	31,238.38	24,611.57
	\$454,883.63	\$389,142.34	\$327,572.98

Expenditures for the past year were higher in each case than the above receipts, resulting in a loss in every department of the Board's work. The net loss in the Business Department for the year ended December 31, 1933, was \$7,690.28. In the operation of the Schaff Building the loss was \$24,418.47, without writing off anything for depreciation. In forwarding the Board's educational work, which is dependent upon receipts from the apportionment, the net loss for the year was \$564.74.

It was only because the Board during the more prosperous years set aside funds, which were being gradually accumulated for the reduction of the Schaff Building mortgage, that it has been found possible to carry on in the face of these shrinkages. Rigid curtailments and re-adjustments were made wherever possible, including salary reductions and the dropping of staff workers and other employees. Among those whose work had to be discontinued are Mrs. Margaret L. String, Director of Children's Work, Mrs. Catherine Miller Balm, Director of Young People's Work and Mrs. Anna L. Miller, Field Worker for Ohio Synod. The Department of Business and Real Estate has been without an active head during the past two years because of Dr. A. S. Bromer's growing disability, which necessitated a long leave of absence and which has now been followed by his resignation, presented at the annual meeting of the Board on April 10, 1934. Our appreciative thanks are due to the hard-working members of the staff for their willingness to carry double responsibilities. Dr. Stahr in addition to serving as Executive Secretary has carried Dr. Bromer's work. Dr. Hauser has been responsible both for heading the Department of Home and Church and for the editing of the Church School periodicals. Rev. Fred D. Wentzel in addition to serving as Director of Leadership Training in the Local Church has been serving as Director of Young People's Work. Mrs. String and Mrs. Miller have continued to render valuable volunteer service. Rev. Clayton H. Ranck has continued as Student Pastor in the Philadelphia area despite a drastic cut in the amount allocated for his support.

For many years the Central Publishing House, which has been serving as the western depository for the Board in its own territory and as its agency in the sale and distribution of Church School periodicals and papers on a commission basis, has been chronically indebted to the Board of Christian Education. During 1932 there was an alarming increase in the indebtedness. By May 15, 1933, the indebtedness had reached the staggering total of \$44,960.43. It was very apparent that disaster would follow unless drastic action were taken. In order to assist the Central Publishing House, and to afford an opportunity to liquidate the indebtedness over a period of years out of possible profits from printing, it was decided to award the contract for the printing of the Church School literature to the Central Publishing House. An agreement covering the agency relationship, the debt and the printing contract was consummated on May 15, 1933. In conformity with this agreement, \$7,500 had been repaid on the total indebtedness as of April 20, 1934.

The problem of the future financing of the Schaff Building is a serious one. Income from the Building, although it is at present 91 per cent rented, has declined to such an extent that even if it were 100 per cent rented it would be impossible under prevailing conditions to meet the necessary overhead and operating expenses. Faced with our inability to make the required annual payments in reduction of the principal sum of the mortgage, we requested the Prudential Insurance Company, the holders of the mortgage a year ago, to be excused from making further reductions for the time being. This request was granted. Later we found that we could not keep our interest payments up to date and at the close of the year, ended December 31, 1933, we were \$11,875.00 in arrears on this item. This condition has continued and on May 31, 1934 the arrearage stood at \$20,559.63. The taxes for 1933 were paid in full but there is no money in sight to pay the 1934 taxes amounting to \$16,189.10. Funds are not available from the Board's business capital as in former years to assist in financing the building. This means that we are face to face with a situation which may very soon be quite critical.

We are glad to be able to report that under date of May 14, 1934 another 12½ per cent payment was received from the Parkway Trust Company in liquidation making a total of 70 per cent paid back to depositors thus far.

EDUCATIONAL WORK

The Board's educational work has been greatly handicapped by the necessary curtailment of the staff. Consequently only a limited amount of field work has been possible. Nevertheless an effort has been made to give special

attention to some sections of the Church far removed from our Philadelphia headquarters. Rev. F. D. Wentzel spent some time in the Mid-West Synod territory in the fall of 1932 and Dr. C. A. Hauser devoted attention to Virginia and North Carolina Classes in the fall of 1933.

The conferences that have been held between the leaders of educational work of our Church and the Evangelical Synod reveal that our sister Church has a strong program of extensive field promotion. We, on the contrary, have laid broad foundations for intensive promotion. Thus the two Churches will mutually supplement one another.

Present day developments, which point in the direction of the promotion of religion on a community basis, indicate that the minister who is a leader in the community will more than ever be the key man in shaping future educational programs and policies. The specialized training of the minister and his helpers in the field of religious education will constitute one of the major problems of Christian Education in the days immediately ahead. The denominational Board in the future will serve in the role of helper and counsellor rather than be the starting point of educational activity.

The special educational emphasis for the year beginning October, 1934, agreed upon by the various Protestant denominations, is "Christ in the Life of the Home." Convinced that the success of the "New Deal" depends ultimately on new and better people, the denominations feel that the Christian Home is the most strategic point of attack in this direction. The Educational Staff has taken action looking toward the promotion of this emphasis through our Church Schools.

In conformity with this emphasis it has been decided to use the proceeds of the Rufus W. and Katherine McCauley Miller Fund for the publication of a special leaflet on "Parent Education," which is being prepared by Professor Nevin C. Harner, of the faculty of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The past two years have been marked by an encouraging increase in workers' conferences and in the use of workers' libraries and in greater interest in community leadership training schools. More attention than ever is being given to the training of capable leaders. When the depression was at its worst the attendance at most of our summer schools and camps was at its best. A significant step is being taken this summer in the merger of the Dayton School of Leadership Training and the Tiffin Summer Missionary Conference into a school which is to cover a period of two full weeks. Plans are under way for the co-operative promotion of the Schools and Camps of our Church and of the Evangelical Synod of N. A. The following is the leadership training and camp program for the ensuing summer:

May 27-28—Third Annual Conference of Philadelphia Classis young people at Camp Mensch Mill.

June 7, 8, 9—Camp Mensch Mill Conference of members of Classical Committees on Christian Education in the Eastern Synod.

June 16—Campers' Reunion at Mensch Mill.

July 2-12—Shady Side Conference.

July 16-28—Camp Mensch Mill, Intermediate Camp.

July 30-Aug. 11—Camp Mensch Mill, Senior Camp.

July 30-Aug. 11—Tiffin Summer School.

Aug. 13-25—Camp Mensch Mill, Young People's Camp.

There was a more general participation in the observance of Education and Young People's Day the past two years than ever before. An aggressive program of activity has been maintained at various centers in the interest of Reformed Church students attending other than our own educational institutions.

THE APPORTIONMENT

On a total apportionment of \$58,165.60 voted by the last General Synod the receipts for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1933 were \$24,611.57.

Thus far this year up to and including May 15, 1934 there has been received \$9,312.19 as compared with \$9,784.08 in the same period last year.

THE REFORMED CHURCH MESSENGER

Since the last meeting of our General Synod, all religious journals have passed through a most serious time of testing. The loss of subscribers and the greatly reduced income from advertising combine to make the situation of the religious press deplorable from the economic standpoint, and the problems of editing, circulating and financing the Church paper weigh heavily upon those to whom this work has been entrusted. Every denominational paper in our country has been undergoing a difficult struggle to survive, and many of our best known journals have been forced to suspend publication entirely or to reduce greatly their size or the number of issues.

The Board notes with gratitude the high place occupied in the field of religious journalism by *The Reformed Church Messenger*, and appreciates deeply the loyalty of many friends who have shown their love for the paper in the face of grave financial losses. During 1933, 1,157 discontinued their subscriptions; but in the same period, 1,045 new subscriptions were secured. The net loss for the year, therefore, of 112, is the smallest since 1928. The loss would have been much greater were it not for the development of the pay-on-delivery plan, which ought to be tried in every congregation of the Church where the subscription list is admittedly too low.

The time has come to recognize the fact that the Church paper must be carried on at a financial loss, and that the Church must be willing to subsidize it because we cannot do without it, and its service was never more needed than in times like these. Secondly, we must face with realistic spirit the fact that we have not done all we could or should have done to stimulate the hunger for good reading in the hearts of our people, or to make them realize how essential a Christian journal is in every Christian family. We must make up our minds to do more than we have ever done before, if we are to maintain ourselves as a denomination.

MERGER OF CHURCH PAPERS

An extensive report concerning the proposed merger of Church papers was made to the last General Synod. The following recent developments have taken place in regard to this difficult problem. Under date of January 9, 1934, the Board of Directors of the Central Publishing House addressed a communication to the Board of Christian Education proposing that the *Messenger* and the *Christian World* be merged at the earliest possible date. It was further proposed that the ownership and policy of the merged paper be vested and ordered as is the case of the *Messenger* at present; that the merged paper be printed in Cleveland; that the present editor of the *Messenger* edit the merged paper; that the editor of the *Christian World* be retained as associate editor for a period of three years; and, that editors in the future be chosen by the Board of Christian Education.

After due consideration the Executive Committee of the Board of Christian Education replied as follows:

That the desirability of having but one Church paper for our Reformed Church was fully recognized, but that at this time, on the eve of the merger of our Church and the Evangelical Synod of North America, the Board ought not in fairness to our sister Church to enter into a proposition

- (a) in which we are expected to make a commitment for the future as to place of publication, and
- (b) in which we are required to bind ourselves for a three-year period in the editing of the paper.

At the annual meeting of the Board of Christian Education held on April 10 and 11, the following resolutions were adopted:

In view of the fact that the merger of our Church papers concerns not merely the *Messenger* and the *Christian World*, but also the *Evangelical Herald*, therefore, be it resolved:

1. That the Board of Christian Education hereby expresses the earnest desire to effect the immediate merger of the *Messenger* and the *Christian World*, as our contribution to the ultimate merger of the English papers of the united Church.
2. That the Board of Christian Education is firmly convinced that this provisional merger should be consummated without imposing any limitations whatsoever upon the ultimate merger of the English Church papers, whether as to place or persons.

In addition to the above resolutions this action was also taken:

VOTED: That, in view of the bearing which the approaching Church merger will have on the denominational weeklies, the Synods interested in the publication both of the *Messenger* and the *Christian World* be requested to study anew the feasibility of the merging of these two papers immediately and to make the findings available to the Board.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

The General Synod which met in Akron, Ohio, June 21-28, 1932, authorized the publication, for tentative and permissive use of the supplementary Catechetical Manual, "Walking and Working with Christ." The first edition of the Manual and of the Teacher's Guide, which accompanied it, was quickly sold and a second edition is at present being circulated.

When it became apparent that a vigorous and aggressive campaign of temperance education was necessary the Board of Christian Education, the Social Service Commission of the General Synod and the Woman's Missionary Society, more than a year ago, set up what is known as the Joint Committee on Temperance Education, which proposes to keep the Church informed periodically about available temperance education materials.

The new forms for enrolling students for the ministry and for the administration of Beneficiary Aid Funds, approved by the last General Synod, have been approved by all of the various Synods of the Church and are now in quite general use.

Our denominational program of missionary education is being quite satisfactorily carried on through the Advisory Council of Missionary Education which is supported equally by the Board of Christian Education, the Boards of Home and Foreign Missions and the Woman's Missionary Society of the General Synod.

Recent publications of the Board include a new edition of the pamphlet "The Workers' Conference," which has been re-issued with the inclusion of much additional material, and also a little book written by Dr. A. V. Casselman, entitled "Into All the World." This latter is one of the approved textbooks in the new A-Series of leadership training texts.

In co-operation with the promotional agencies both of our Church and the Evangelical Synod of N. A. and the Eden Publishing House, the Board of Christian Education is making denominational message envelopes available for the use of our congregations. Each of the fifty-two weekly offering envelopes in the usual envelope packet will contain brief and succinct messages pertaining to the merged Church and its activities.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO RELINQUISH HIS WORK

Dr. Stahr has been elected President of Hood College to succeed Joseph H. Apple, LL.D., who retires from active service after occupying the Presidency for forty-one years. He has decided to accept the challenge to head this important educational institution of the Church. The date for relinquishing his work as Executive Secretary of the Board has not yet been definitely fixed.

CONCLUSION

An adequate program of Christian Education embraces within its scope home and church and school. If the Church is to accomplish great things for the kingdom both in America and abroad it can do so only from the background of a real educational program. The shape and form of things educational in the merged Church remains to be determined. May we who have had such good reason to be proud of our educational heritage, in forming our new set-up, show our faith by our works and accord Christian Education its rightful place. May we express the hope that the vital significance of a comprehensive program of Christian Education will be recognized and that adequate financial support will be forthcoming. The program of Christian Education must be projected and supported not only in a worthy manner but in one that is commensurate with the supreme importance which the Master Teacher Himself attached to education and the educational method.

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL S. LEINBACH, President

HENRY I. STAHR, Executive Secretary

THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MINISTERIAL RELIEF

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: Ministerial Relief, which had its beginning in the first grant of "4 pounds of this country's money" to the widow of Dominie Boehm by the Coetus on Tuesday morning, September 24, 1752, in Lancaster, Pa.; and which was carried forward by societies from 1773 to 1926; was continued and effectively developed by the Board of Ministerial Relief, which was created by the General Synod on May 16-24, 1905, and was chartered by the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia on January 24, 1907. In this our report to the last General Synod, we shall briefly review the work done by your Board from its beginning to the end of 1933.

ADEQUATE CARE OF OUR VETERANS

The one great purpose of your Board is the adequate care of our veteran ministers and their widows. The care of our ministers is more important than the accumulation of Church property. The Church, above all institutions, should value human life more highly than material things. Our work is very important and greatly needed. Our Church recognizes that one of its first duties is the care of our ministers. Therefore our Church has established salaries for our ministers in service and has created a Board to care for our ministers who cannot serve, because of disability or old age. Ministerial Relief is not charity, but simple justice. Our aged and disabled ministers have as much right to be supported by our Church as have our active pastors, missionaries, teachers, and executives.

THE FINANCES OF YOUR BOARD

Your Board has a well devised "Financial Policy" and approved "Rules of Investment," both of which we follow conscientiously. Every security we possess has been analyzed. The character and investment value of each bond is carefully studied in the Investment Services of the Standard Statistics and Fitch Companies before it is purchased. Moody and others also are consulted.

Our Church contributed \$1,754,961.18 for Ministerial Relief and gave it to your Board during the 29 years of its history. On this, as a working capital, we earned \$626,800.30. Thus our total cash receipts were \$2,381,761.48 to the close of 1933.

The total annuitants from 1905 to the close of 1933 numbered 520 ministers and widows of ministers in our Relief Department, to whom we gave \$751,-669.38; and 157 ministers, and widows and orphans of ministers in our Sustentation Fund, to whom we gave \$70,436.55. Thus we cared for a total of 677 Relief and Sustentation annuitants in the amount of \$822,105.93.

The overhead expenses averaged \$5,407.48 a year, which are very low, or a total of \$156,827.51 for all time. These overhead expenses were paid by \$134,212.79 gained on investments and \$22,614.72 taken from interest received. All the contributions for Ministerial Relief made by any person have been paid to our veteran ministers or reserved for them. That is, of the \$1,754,961.18, which we received from our Church, we have given \$822,105.93 to our veterans of the sanctuary; and have in our possession the remaining \$932,855.25 in the form of investments, which are a part of our Sustentation Fund. As trustees of our Sustentation Fund, we are legally bound to keep the \$932,855.25 as reserves. We can give this money to our veteran ministers and their widows only as they by sickness, old age, or death, become eligible for it, as in life insurance.

We pay as we go. We give as we get. The work of your Board is of such a nature that we are able to live within our income. We know by years of experience that while we always have obligations, we need not contract any debts to pay them.

The total assets of your Board on December 31, 1933, were \$1,433,998.25, of which \$1,431,712.84 were investments and \$2,285.41 were cash in bank. As already stated, most of these assets must be held as reserves in our Sustentation Fund, to be given to our veteran ministers and their widows as soon as they become eligible to receive them.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT

The Relief Department of your Board is supported by the Apportionment received and by designated contributions of individuals and congregations. Grants from this department are made to our aged and disabled ministers and the widows of our ministers. These grants are based largely on need. Age, health, and dependents also are taken into consideration.

The Relief annuitants and their annuities are shown in the following table. There you see that 269 annuitants of the Relief Department were given \$64,631.22 in 1932, and 262 annuitants were given \$44,833.06 in 1933. This table also shows that a total of 520 annuitants for all time were given \$751,669.38, which is \$8,848.29 more than all the contributions of \$743,293.15 ever received. Thus every cent contributed for Relief by every person for all time was given to our Relief Department annuitants. No contribution was used for overhead expenses or any other purpose than Ministerial Relief grants.

RELIEF DEPARTMENT

Year	Contributions and Apportionment Received	Paid to Annuitants 1905-1933	Total Annuitants by Years	Average Annuities Paid Each Year
Aug. 3, 1905—Dec. 31, 1931	\$656,902 12	\$642,205 10	469	\$168 13
1932	\$52,284 33	\$64,631 22	269	\$251 59
1933	34,106 70	44,833 06	262	220 76
Aug. 3, 1905—Dec. 31, 1933	\$743,293 15	\$751,669 38	520	\$172 00

The total investments of the Relief Department were \$152,492.00 and the cash in bank \$683.31, as of December 31, 1933.

THE APPORTIONMENT AND RELIEF ANNUITIES

The high water mark in the Apportionment receipts for Ministerial Relief was for the year 1928-1929, when we received \$77,343.09. With the beginning of 1930, there came a decided decrease in the Apportionment receipts, and consequently your Board was compelled to reduce the Relief annuities each year since 1930, as is shown in the following table:

<i>Apportionment Receipts</i>	<i>Relief Annuities</i>
1930 \$68,412.01	1930 \$77,524.14
1931 61,228.88	1931 73,627.88
1932 45,987.56	1932 64,631.22
1933 33,250.72	1933 44,833.06

Decreased giving means decreased annuities. Our Church by its decreased giving since 1929 compelled your Board to reduce the Relief annuities from \$77,524.14 in 1930 to \$44,833.06 in 1933, or 42 per cent, which is one of the greatest reductions suffered by any minister or missionary of our Church. These reductions have placed a heavy financial burden upon the shoulders of our veteran ministers and their widows, and have worked a great hardship for them.

Every dollar received for Relief is given to our annuitants. In the above table you will notice that for the four years of 1930-1933 we gave our Relief annuitants \$260,616.30 and during the same years received \$208,879.17 from the Apportionment, a difference of \$51,737.13, supplied by your Board, which is an average of \$12,934.28 a year. Although we gave our Relief annuitants everything we could give them, we never were able to give them as much as they actually needed. For this reason our Relief annuitants, in order to live frugally, should receive not less than the new Apportionment of \$80,137.20 a year from our Church, plus the amount we can give them as a Board from other sources.

SUSTENTATION FUND

Our Sustentation Fund was established by our General Synod in May, 1917, and is a form of annuity insurance or of pension for our ministers, their widows, and minor orphan children. Our ministers provide 20 per cent, or 1/5, of the financing by the payment of their dues; and our Church members are asked to provide the remaining 80 per cent, or 4/5, of the financing by their contributions.

The total number of members enrolled in the Fund was 1,063 ministers and missionaries as of December 31, 1933, of whom 94 died, 24 were disabled, 29 were seventy-year annuitants, 45 were voluntary withdrawals, and 50 involuntary withdrawals, which left 821 regular paying members.

The Members' Reserve consists of the dues paid by or for the members of the Fund and the interest thereon. The total investments of the Members' Reserve were \$353,000, and the cash in bank was \$920.36, as of December 31, 1933. The Members' Reserve is always financed in full, which is 20 per cent of the total needed, because the members' dues are always paid in full. Therefore 20 per cent of the maximum benefits are always paid in full by this Reserve.

The Church's Reserve consists of all the contributions of our Church members to the Fund, except the members' dues paid, and the interest thereon. The total investments of the Church's Reserve were \$926,220.84 and the cash in bank was \$681.74, as of December 31, 1933. Our Church members have contributed only 30 per cent of the 80 per cent needed to fully finance the Fund, and therefore have provided only 30 per cent of the maximum benefits.

The total contributions of the members of the Fund, the total contributions of our Church members, and the total membership, annuitants, annuities paid, and the per cent of maximum annuities paid are shown in the following table. All of the \$272,413.67 paid by the members of the Fund in dues and all of the \$739,254.36 contributed by our Church members, a total of \$1,011,668.03 is safely invested and in the hands of your Board. Thus far not one cent of the dues paid by the members of the Fund or of the contributions of our Church members to the Fund has been used for either overhead expenses or any other purpose. They are held as reserves, with which to pay the benefits of the aged and disabled members of the Fund, their widows, and minor orphan children. Both the overhead expenses and the benefits of the Fund have been paid by the interest on the investments and the gain on these

investments. However, the Sustentation annuitants are increasing rapidly each year, and the time is approaching, when the interest received no longer will pay the benefits in full and a certain amount must be taken from each of the two reserves in order to pay the benefits required by each certificate of membership.

SUSTENTATION FUND

Year	Total Members' Dues Received	Total Church's Contributions	Total Certificates Issued	Total Annuitants Each Year	Total Annuities Paid	Per Cent Maximum Annuities Paid
1917-31...	\$231,695 38	\$723,349 17	1,037	113	\$38,453 62	20%-49%
1932.....	\$20,421 71	\$10,011 75	1,052	106	\$14,515 61	50%
1933.....	20,296 58	5,893 44	1,063	136	17,467 32	50%
1917-33...	\$272,413 67	\$739,254 36	1,063	157	\$70,436 55	

MEMORIAL FUNDS, ANNUITY BONDS, AND BEQUESTS

A Ministerial Memorial Fund consists of \$500.00, or more, up to any amount, given to your Board. This money is sacredly kept and safely invested by us, and the interest of it is used in helping to support the aged or disabled ministers of our Church, or their widows. This is one of the finest forms of giving. On December 31, 1933, we had 55 Memorial Funds, on which \$51,991.69 had been paid, and which will have a value of \$139,190.48 when fully completed.

An Annuity Fund consists of \$100.00, or more, given by an individual to your Board, on which he or a beneficiary, whom he names, receives a liberal rate of interest for life, after which the principal is used for the support of our aged and disabled ministers and their widows. On December 31, 1933, we had 87 Annuity Bonds, on which \$57,147.00 had been given to us. In accordance with our interpretation of Annuity Bonds, they are investments with your Board, the principal of which cannot be used for any purpose except investment in first-class securities until after the death of the beneficiary. Therefore, your Board maintains one dollar's worth of sound investments for every dollar given, in order that the beneficiaries may be assured of the regular payment of their interest as long as they live.

Bequests are received by your Board from time to time. Many of our Church people lovingly show their appreciation of the services of our ministers by remembering Ministerial Relief in their wills. The largest bequest ever made to your Board was \$85,000.00, which was given by William Zacharias, late of Emmitsburg, Md., as a memorial to his sainted father, the Rev. Daniel Zacharias, D.D.

PERSONNEL AND WORK OF YOUR BOARD

The personnel of your Board consists of ministers and elders. Thirty-nine ministers and elders have served as members of your Board since its organization in 1905. The present members of your Board are Rev. Harry N. Bassler, D.D., President; Rev. William H. Bollman, Vice-President; Rev. James W. Meminger, D.D., Secretary; Rev. Eugene L. McLean, D.D., Treasurer; Rev. Wallace H. Wotring, D.D., LL.D., Rev. Henry C. Nott, D.D., Rev. Carl F. Heyl, D.D., Rev. John L. Barnhart, D.D., Rev. Frederick A. Rupley, D.D., Rev. Orris D. Haulman, D.D., Rev. Tillman W. Hoermann, D.D., Elder A. Paul Gerhart, Elder Edward Dirks, and Elder C. C. Walther, Esq. Prof. J. W. Grosshuesch, Ph.D., is the Honorary Vice-President. We regret to report that Rev. William C. Sykes, D.D., who had been a member of your Board since 1929, died on April 18, 1934. Our Board members represent every Synod of our Church.

The other agencies of your Board consist of an Executive Committee, a Finance Committee, a Ministerial Relief Informant in each Classis, a Field-

man in the Northwest Synod, and an expert Actuary. The entire personnel of the office of your Board consists of the Secretary, the Treasurer, and two clerks.

THE SOCIETY FOR RELIEF

The Society for the Relief of Ministers and Their Widows was chartered by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on March 26, 1810. This charter with its Enabling Act of 1865 is still in force, and the Society operates under it, although for all practical purposes it is merged with your Board. The organization of the Society has been kept intact to avoid legal difficulties in the administration of its affairs. At the request of your Board, the Society in 1920 agreed (1) to receive no more new members, (2) to solicit no contributions from our Church, (3) to transfer the care of its annuitants to your Board, and (4) to give all the interest of its invested funds, less overhead expenses, to your Board for the care of the annuitants of the Society; provided your Board cared for the annuitants of the Society as well as possible, and there would always be representatives of the Executive Board of the Society on your Board. Thus from 1920 to the end of 1933, the Society gave to your Board a total of \$77,968.29, which is an average of \$5,997.56 a year. The total assets of the Society, which have not been included in the assets of your Board, consisted of \$152,000.00 in investments, and \$507.65 of cash in bank, as of December 31, 1933. The personnel of the Executive Board of the Society is Dr. Harry N. Bassler, President; Dr. John L. Barnhart, Vice-President; Dr. Eugene L. McLean, Secretary and Treasurer; Dr. Samuel M. Roeder, Assessor; Dr. Edward O. Keen, Assessor; and Dr. Frederick A. Rupley. The Society meets annually. On March 31, 1934, it had 270 members.

THE LAYMEN'S COMMITTEE

The Laymen's Committee on Ministerial Relief of the General Synod held no conferences with your Board since the last meeting of the General Synod in 1932, and therefore has no report to offer.

CHURCH UNION

Your Board believes that it can easily merge its work with that of the Board of Pension and Relief of the Evangelical Synod under one administrative Board. We feel confident of this after a delightful conference with representatives of the Board of Pension and Relief of the Evangelical Synod. However, each of the two Boards feels that their affairs cannot be thrown together hastily, but that the merger must be given enough time to be worked out legally, orderly, and correctly.

CONCLUSION

This report of necessity must be brief, and does not contain many details of the work of your Board. However, we believe that it presents a good picture of the achievements and stewardship of your Board from its beginning in 1905 to the end of 1933. In closing, we pray that God may richly bless our Board, all of our ministers, their wives, widows, and orphan children, and every member of our Church and of the Evangelical Synod of North America.

The above Report was adopted by the Executive Committee of your Board.

Respectfully submitted,

REV. HARRY N. BASSLER, D.D., *President*
REV. WILLIAM H. BOLLMAN, *Vice-President*
REV. J. W. MEMINGER, D.D., *Secretary*
REV. EUGENE L. MCLEAN, D.D., *Treasurer*
REV. FREDERICK A. RUPLEY, D.D.

**REPORT ON THE PAROCHIAL STATISTICS
Summary of the Reformed Church in the United States for December 31, 1933**

*North Dakota Classis figures for 1932 used in this report

Respectfully submitted

J. Rauch Stein, Stated Clerk.

On the foregoing series of reports, each of which was severally adopted, special action was taken as follows:

1. The report of the Women's Missionary Society was adopted by an appreciative, rising vote.

2. Synod voted to adopt the report of the Board of Home Missions with the provision that the Chateau Thierry Fund be transferred entirely to the Board of Home Missions to be held as a separate trust and administered as heretofore.

3. It was resolved that the Board of Foreign Missions be granted until the next Foreign Mission Day for its debt-raising Campaign.

4. The adoption of the report of the Board of Ministerial Relief included the discontinuance of the Laymen's Committee.

5. Under the heading "Unfinished Items and Special Orders" there was nothing reported.

Under Item III of the Call, the Budget for our Work in the New Church, the General Synod took the following action:

RESOLVED that the budgets adopted by the General Synod at Akron in 1932 for the years 1933-1934-1935 be continued for our constituency until such time as the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church legislates otherwise, with the proviso that our own General Synod shall increase the Budget of the Executive Committee and the General Synod Contingent, in case the merger causes increased expenditures.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions was read and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: These special sessions of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States close a period of seventy-one years of history in the life of our beloved Zion. During this period of time our denominational membership has increased threefold, and the blessings of God have attended us all along the way. In these last sessions of our General Synod the mind and heart of our church is stirred with the assurance of a new and larger life in the Evangelical and Reformed Church. The attention of Protestantism is upon us during these days, and we are without doubt assured of the interest and prayers of countless children of God. The unusually large attendance on the part of delegates and visitors is a refreshing indication of a deep and prayerful interest in the work of the Kingdom of God. As the history of our General Synod comes to a close, we are dying to live again in a new and larger sphere of service. Your Committee on Resolutions begs leave to present the following items for your consideration and adoption.

I. We express to the Reformed Churches of Cleveland and especially to the Eighth Reformed Church, in whose edifice the opening sessions were held, our hearty appreciation of all the kindly efforts put forth to entertain this Synod.

II. We especially thank the pastor and members of the Pilgrim Congregational Church for their readiness to place their spacious and historic edifice at the disposal of our General Synod, so that because of lack of room in the Eighth Reformed Church the sessions could be transferred without confusion to the Pilgrim Church.

III. Special mention should be made of the classic, deeply devotional, heartstirring and thought-provoking sermon preached by the Assistant Stated Clerk of the General Synod, Rev. F. Wm. Leich, D.D. We recommend that this sermon be published in our English Church Papers.

IV. We recognize the forethought and careful planning on the part of the Executive Committee of the General Synod and its Secretary, Dr. Wm. Lampe, the Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union, which

helped to keep dispatch of business under the leadership of the retiring President, Dr. H. C. Christman, on schedule time.

V. We recommend that the Treasurer of the General Synod be instructed to pay to the Eighth Reformed Church and to the Pilgrim Congregational Church fifty dollars (\$50.00) each, not as compensation, but as an expression of our appreciation of the physical equipment so willingly and graciously placed at our disposal.

Respectfully submitted,

*F. H. Rupnow
John G. Fritchey
David Dunn*

The Committee on Advisory Members made report and the same was adopted as follows:

REPORT ON ADVISORY MEMBERS

Following is a list, as near complete as possible, of those attending the Special Meeting of the General Synod and also the first meeting of the New General Synod, as Advisory Members:

EASTERN SYNOD: Revs. John C. Brumbach, E. O. Butkofsky, A. V. Casselman, C. E. Creitz, Russell D. Custer, J. Rauch Stein, J. M. G. Darms, Purd E. Deitz, Wm. F. DeLong, Chas. F. Freeman, C. A. Hauser, William F. Kosman, Thos. H. Leinbach, Eugene L. McLean, J. O. H. Meyer, Howard Obold, Jacob G. Rupp, Charles E. Schaeffer, Paul C. Scheirer, Paul E. Schmoyer, Paul T. Slinghoff, John Baer Stoudt, A. C. Thompson, William Toennes, Rufus C. Zartman; Elders John B. Boyer, Joseph S. Wise.

OHIO SYNOD: Revs. P. H. Baumann, C. G. Beaver, Melvin E. Beck, A. K. Beisheim, John W. Belser, R. W. Blemker, F. R. Casselman, H. H. Casselman, Alexander Csutoros, N. C. Dittes, A. H. Ellshoff, E. D. Fager, Albert S. Glessner, Conrad Hoffman, Wm. G. Klein, E. G. Klotz, Carl D. Kriete, H. P. Ley, A. G. Lohmann, Geo. Longaker, Ewald Sommerlatte, John Sommerlatte, G. H. Souder, O. Stockmeier, Philip Vollmer, H. Wernecke, E. D. Wettach, A. D. Wolfinger, E. E. Young, Allen K. Zartman; Elders H. C. Knech, Arthur H. Kippenberg, M. Remagen; Mrs. G. H. Souder, E. E. Young, E. G. Klotz.

SYNOD OF THE NORTHWEST: Revs. Theo. P. Bolliger, Henry C. Nott, E. L. Worthman, J. Friedli.

PITTSBURGH SYNOD: Revs. John H. Bosch, Frederick H. Diehm, F. W. Englemann, Frank Hiack, A. M. Keifer, I. George Nace, Victor A. Ruth, H. Schultz, J. Grant Walter; Elders D. J. Snyder, C. E. Zimmerman; Miss Hedwig M. Linnenbruegge, Mrs. J. B. Tyler.

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC: Revs. Joseph A. Apple, D. J. Barnhart, H. C. Kellermeyer, Chas. W. Levan, Henry I. Stahr; Elders Emory L. Coblenz, Howard R. Omwake, L. P. Teel, Samuel A. Troxler, Henry M. Warrenfeltz.

SYNOD OF THE MID-WEST: Revs. A. C. Fischer, John C. Horning, Carl J. G. Russom, W. A. Settlage; Elders E. F. Bloemker, Philip G. Goebel, Maurice G. Lipson; Misses Kate I. Hansen, Lydia A. Lindsey (Missionaries from Japan).

Frank F. Fischer, Student Theological Seminary, Lancaster, Pa.
Rev. Dan Bradley, Pilgrim Congregational Church, Cleveland, O.
Rev. H. B. Diefenbach, Cleveland Presbytery.
Rev. H. F. Hilgeman, Bay City, Mich.
Rev. W. H. Hosto, Smithton, Ill.
Rev. Roland Hosto, Okawville, Ill.
Rev. H. W. Hosto, Hecker, Ill.
Rev. Albert E. Viehe, Hamburg, N. Y.

Respectfully submitted,

*George W. Good
Aaron R. Tosh*

By special action it was voted that the New General Synod be requested to have the Minutes of all the sessions published in one volume.

Dr. Dan. Bradley, the pastor of the Pilgrim Congregational Church, was introduced and briefly addressed the General Synod.

It was moved and seconded that the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the U. S. do now adjourn "sine die" to meet in Joint Session with the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America at 7 P. M. for the purpose of declaring by joint resolution that the union of the Churches has been duly effected, and to partake together at 8 P. M., as a united Church, of the Holy Communion.

The Roll Clerk reported a quorum present at the final Roll Call, consisting of 108 ministers and 75 elders who had registered their presence.

The General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States adjourned finally on Tuesday, June 26, 1934, at 4:55 P. M., in accordance with the order prescribed in the Constitution.

The members of the Synod gathered at the chancel for the closing service. They united in confessing their faith through the Apostles' Creed, prayed the Lord's Prayer together and joined in singing the Doxology. The President then pronounced the Apostolic Benediction and declared the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States adjourned.

*Henry Jacob Christman, President
James Rauch Stein, Stated Clerk.*

Official copy of the original Minutes.

James Rauch Stein, Stated Clerk.

Schaff Building, 1505 Race St.,
Philadelphia, Pa., July 26, 1934.

REPORTS AND MINUTES

of the

Special General Conference

of the

Evangelical Synod

of North America



Held in

Zion Evangelical Church

W. 14th and Branch Sts.

CLEVELAND, OHIO

June 26, 1934

**REPORTS AND MINUTES
of the
SPECIAL GENERAL CONFERENCE
of the
EVANGELICAL SYNOD OF NORTH AMERICA
Held at Cleveland, Ohio, Zion Evangelical Church
Rev. Oscar Wittlinger, June 26, 1934**

The special session of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America was opened at 9:30 A. M. with a devotional service conducted by the Rev. F. A. Goetsch, who based his address on Mark 6: 7, 8.

The Honorable President, the Rev. Paul Press, called the meeting to order and greeted the members of the conference and the visitors present.

The roll call showed a quorum present, 89 pastors and 73 laymen having answered the roll-call.

The Committee on Credentials presented its report and the delegates whose names appeared in the printed official program of the General Conference, were given voice and vote, with substitutions as noted.

The election for Moderator resulted in the Rev. Timothy Lehmann, D.D., being chosen, with Mr. J. W. Mueller as Vice-Moderator, both elections being by unanimous vote, the secretary having been instructed to cast the ballots.

The Moderator having taken the chair, the conference program as printed was adopted as the agenda for the day. Thereupon the official call for the special General Conference was read by the Secretary, as follows:

"Since both the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America have formally approved their Plan of Union, the two Commissions on Church Union of the negotiating churches, meeting in joint session at the Evangelical Synod Building, St. Louis, Mo., on December 12, 1933, resolved, in accordance with the Plan of Union, to request the officers of the Supreme Judicatories of both church bodies to call a special meeting of each Judicatory for June 26, 1934, at Cleveland, Ohio.

The Board of Directors of the Evangelical Synod, in response to the request and authorized by the General Conference of last October in Cincinnati, Ohio, herewith issues the call for a Special General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America, to convene at Cleveland, Ohio, on Tuesday, June 26, 1934, for the purpose of taking such further action as may be necessary in the premises, and to transact such other business as may come before it."

The Honorable President, the Rev. Paul Press, then read his report, which was received with thanks and referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

Mr. F. A. Keck, Treasurer of the Synod, thereupon submitted his report, giving a word-picture of the financial condition of the Synod at this time, and showing that while the Budget receipts in the first few months of the year were in excess over those of a like period of last year, the last two months (May and June) have shown a decrease, as compared with the corresponding months of last year. Mr. Keck also elabo-

rated on the Synodical Recovery Plan, giving explanations necessary for a better understanding of its objects.

The Treasurer's report was also received with thanks and referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

COMMITTEES

Committee on Credentials

Rev. Fr. Stoerker, West Missouri, Chairman

Pastors: H. P. Vieth, Missouri; H. Robert Gebhardt, California; Layman Ernest Lache, Pennsylvania.

Committee on Resolutions

Rev. Chas. Enders, Atlantic, Chairman.

Pastors: F. L. Rodenbeck, Nebraska; Theo. A. Thomas, Iowa; Theo. R. Schmale, Michigan; J. M. Munz, Minnesota.

Laymen: John Abele, Kansas; A. R. Scheef, Texas; Henry Goebel, Indiana.

Committee on Legal Status and Interim Functions and

Powers of the Administration

Mr. John W. Mueller, Missouri, Chairman

Pastors: F. C. Klick, West Missouri; F. H. Krohne, New York; F. A. Goetsch, Missouri.

Laymen: Wm. C. Hazlebeck, Ohio; H. W. Schultheis, Atlantic; F. A. Keck, Missouri; J. C. Fischer, Indiana.

Committee on Nominations

Pastors: Paul M. Schroeder, Indiana; F. C. Rueggeberg, Atlantic; Robert Kofer, South Illinois; D. Baltzer, Texas.

Laymen: H. W. Bauer, South Illinois; Henry Albrecht, New York; E. H. Hohman, North Illinois; O. C. Grueninger, Missouri.

Committee on Music

Rev. F. R. Daries, Indiana.

DELEGATES TO THE SPECIAL GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE EVANGELICAL SYNOD OF N. A.

CLERGY

Atlantic District

1. F. C. Rueggeberg, Pres., 2526 W. Lombard St., Baltimore, Md.
2. Chas. Enders, 1920 G. St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
3. Paul Briesemeister, 209 Bradley St., Schenectady, N. Y.
4. E. J. Dettbarn, 2005 Bryant Ave., Baltimore, Md.

California District

5. Carl Saenger, Pres., 432 Cleveland St., Woodland, Cal.
6. H. Robert Gebhardt, 1507 W. 51st Pl., Los Angeles, Cal.
7. J. Nuesch, 1739 Trinity St., Los Angeles, Cal.

Colorado District

8. Henry Baumgaertel, Pres., Windsor, Colo.
9. G. A. Schmidt, 1261 Pennsylvania St., Denver, Colo.

Indiana District

10. Paul M. Schroeder, Pres., 33 W. Virginia St., Evansville, Ind.
11. F. R. Daries, 3610 Guilford Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.

12. Wm. Mehl, 2026 Tyler Lane, Louisville, Ky.
13. A. E. Klick, 633 E. Market St., Louisville, Ky.
14. E. Piepenbrok, 902 Sanders St., Indianapolis, Ind.
15. G. W. Grauer, 106 W. McMicken Ave., Cincinnati, O.
16. J. Otto Reller, 607 Jefferson Ave., Evansville, Ind.
17. Alfred G. Schnake, 114 Hartweg Ave., Ft. Thomas, Ky.
18. F. A. Meusch, B. of D., 222 E. Spring St., New Albany, Ind.

Iowa District

19. Theo. A. Thomas, Pres., Tripoli, Iowa.
20. E. Seybold, Ackley, Iowa.
21. Theo. F. Schumacher, 323 N. Washington St., Kahoka, Mo.
22. A. H. Bisping, 1020 Exchange St., Keokuk, Iowa.
23. Paul F. Kitterer, Elkader, Iowa.
24. W. Krummel, 812 Ring St., Mapleton, Iowa.

Kansas District

25. H. Becker, Pres., 720 Nebraska Ave., Kansas City, Kan.
26. R. F. Richter, Ellinwood, Kan.
27. John W. Flucke, Kingfisher, Okla.

Michigan District

28. J. Wulfmann, Pres., 34 S. Wilson Blvd., Mt. Clemens, Mich.
29. Theo. Schmale, 432 S. 4th Ave., Ann Arbor, Mich.
30. Theo. Eisen, 609 Sycamore St., Niles, Mich.
31. E. H. Spatelf, 983 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, Mich.
32. R. C. Stanger, 2270 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, Mich.
33. E. J. Soell, 1013 7th St., Port Huron, Mich.
34. E. F. Mayer, 2243 Seminole Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Minnesota District

35. J. M. Munz, Pres., Hebron, N. Dak.
36. Erwin R. Koch, 1365 N. Hamline Ave., St. Paul, Minn.
37. Otto A. Muecke, 400 S. Second St., LeSueur, Minn.
38. Wm. Riemann, 2307 24th Ave. N., Minneapolis, Minn.

Missouri District

39. O. Kienker, Pres., 8404 Halls Ferry Road, St. Louis, Mo.
40. Paul Press, B. of D., 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
41. Prof. S. D. Press, 475 E. Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves, Mo.
42. F. A. Goetsch, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
43. Prof. A. Wehrli, 465 Park Road, Webster Groves, Mo.
44. A. Alberswerth, 2613 Potomac St., St. Louis, Mo.

Nebraska District

45. F. L. Rodenbeck, Pres., 1314 F. St., Lincoln, Neb.
46. J. H. Steger, Columbus, Neb.

New York District

47. Paul Langhorst, Pres., 35 E. Parade Circle, Buffalo, N. Y.
48. Robert H. Keller, 591 N. Oak St., Buffalo, N. Y.
49. R. Vieweg, 161 Dewitt Ave., Elmira, N. Y.
50. Paul Frankenfeld, 16 Peoria St., Buffalo, N. Y.
51. F. H. Krohne, 364 Genesee St., Buffalo, N. Y.

North Illinois District

52. Arno A. Zimmermann, Pres., Box 406, Pekin, Ill.
53. L. W. Goebel, 2135 N. Sawyer Ave., Chicago, Ill.
54. Dr. H. J. Schick, 7020 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.
55. Dr. T. Lehmann, Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Ill.
56. H. W. Dinkmeyer, 4242 N. Paulina St., Chicago, Ill.
57. Geo. W. Goebel, 1064 Cora St., Des Plaines, Ill.
58. E. Crusius, 839 Fourth St., La Salle, Ill.
59. A. B. Gaebe, Monee, Ill.

60. H. E. Lambrecht, 2238 Cortez St., Chicago, Ill.
61. A. F. Dexheimer, 5049 Gunnison St., Chicago, Ill.
62. E. H. Plassmann, Peotone, Ill.

Ohio District

63. H. E. Pheiffer, Pres., 804 W. Jefferson St., Sandusky, O.
64. Ernst Irion, 423 Third St., Elyria, O.
65. Theo. Schlundt, 405 Wooster Ave., Dover, O.
66. J. E. Digel, 121 Tremont Ave., S. E., Massillon, O.
67. G. Siegenthaler, 674 S. High St., Columbus, O.
68. E. N. Krafft, 3236 E. 55th St., Cleveland, O.

Pacific-Northwest District

69. Chas. Warber, Pres., 3201 Wetmore Ave., Everett, Wash.

Pennsylvania District

70. J. R. C. Haas, Pres., 3739 Wood St., Wheeling, W. Va.
71. Wm. J. Hausmann, 41 22nd St., Wheeling, W. Va.

Southern District

72. J. P. Quinius, Pres., 2317 Napoleon Ave., New Orleans, La.
73. Louis Schweickhardt, 1329 S. Carrollton Ave., New Orleans, La.

South Illinois District

74. H. J. Bredehoeft, Pres., 907 N. Second St., Edwardsville, Ill.
75. Robert Kofer, Alhambra, Ill.
76. H. H. Wintermeyer, 2103 Cleveland Blvd., Granite City, Ill.
77. C. H. Kluge, Nashville, Ill.
78. O. W. Heggemeier, 522 E. 8th St., Alton, Ill.

Texas District

79. Robert Mohr, Pres., P. O. Box 126, Coupland, Tex.
80. D. Baltzer, 3410 Austin St., Houston, Tex.
81. C. Wolff, 627 S. Eighth St., Waco, Tex.

West Missouri District

82. J. C. Bierbaum, Pres., California, Mo.
83. Clyde Koehler, 112 W. Farmer St., Independence, Mo.
84. Fr. Stoerker, Boonville, Mo.
85. F. C. Klick, B. of D., 814 Faraon St., St. Joseph, Mo.

Wisconsin District

86. W. H. Schlinkmann, Pres., 1214 N. 13th St., Milwaukee, Wis.
87. Paul C. Kehle, 335 Scott St., Ripon, Wis.
88. T. Irion, 243 Parkway, Oshkosh, Wis.
89. M. M. Schmidt, 106 Poplar St., Merrill, Wis.
90. Dr. H. Niefer, 812 E. Russell Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

India Mission District

91. T. C. Seybold, Blue Springs, Mo.

COMMISSIONED WORKER

92. Prof. Harold A. Pflug, Eden Theological Seminary, Webster Groves, Mo.

Those Attending Conference without Vote

CLERGY

93. John L. Ernst, Ph.D., 3975 Concord Ave., Detroit, Mich.
94. Theo. Haefele, 4138 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis, Mo.
95. S. P. Bittner, 3111 Linwood Blvd., Kansas City, Mo.
96. Wm. Grotfeld, 1110 Grove St., Downers Grove, Ill.
97. Ralph C. Abele, 4916 Mardel Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
98. G. A. Kienle, 917 W. Garfield Blvd., Chicago, Ill.
99. Prof. C. E. Schneider, 129 Bompert Ave., Webster Groves, Mo.
100. J. H. Horstmann, D.D., 1724 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

101. Otto Press, 1724 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
102. Fred E. McQueen, 1724 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
103. Paul A. Menzel, D.D., 2951 Tilden St., Washington, D. C.
104. H. Kamphausen, D.D., 1956 West Blvd., Cleveland, O.
105. J. J. Braun, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
106. T. C. Braun, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
107. H. L. Streich, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
108. O. P. Schroerluke, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
109. H. P. Vieth, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

LAITY

Atlantic District

1. Henry W. Schultheis, 3721 Edmonson Ave., Baltimore, Md.
2. F. C. Heitkamp, Scotia, N. Y.
3. F. W. Mankey, 833 Third Ave., Williamsport, Pa.

California District

4. Frank Jessen, Box 94, R. R. 2, Petaluma, Cal.

Colorado District

5. S. G. Becker, 1777 Ivanhoe St., Denver, Colo.

Indiana District

6. Henry Goebel, 600 Adams Ave., Evansville, Ind.
7. Louis Brandt, 1616 Pleasant Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.
8. Fred Diehl, 4301 River Park Drive, Louisville, Ky.
9. J. C. Fischer, B. of D., 723 E. Blackford Ave., Evansville, Ind.
10. Walter Becker, Tell City, Ind.
11. Dan Caldemeyer, 544 S. Weinbach, Evansville, Ind.
12. Erwin Kraemer, 311 Oregon St., Cincinnati, O.
13. Raymond Schwender, 506 Wallace Ave., Louisville, Ky.

Iowa District

14. Emil Brinkmeier, Hubbard, Iowa.
15. Dr. C. E. Stofflet, Lowden, Iowa.
16. Wm. H. Witte, Lowden, Iowa.
17. Fred W. Rasche, 1700 Orchard St., Burlington, Iowa.
18. Henry C. Bode, 1526 Main St., Keokuk, Ia.

Kansas District

19. Homer Gerstenberg, Eudora, Kan.
20. Henry Kamp, 1308 West 25th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.
21. John Abele, Wamego, Kan.

Michigan District

22. Geo. Bartling, 1795 Canton St., Detroit, Mich.
23. W. C. Westphal, 14317 Avington, Detroit, Mich.
24. E. J. Widman, 3246 Leslie St., Detroit, Mich.
25. Theo. Koerner, 749 Pallister Ave., Detroit, Mich.
26. Chas. Tonn, 1407 Wabash St., Michigan City, Ind.
27. Chas. Gruel, 727 Griswold St., Port Huron, Mich.

Minnesota District

28. Phil. Justus, 1451 Summit Ave., St. Paul, Minn.
29. Fred Warber, 854 Security Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.
30. Arnold Hoof, 219 S. 6th St., Minneapolis, Minn.
31. Albert Kelm, R. R., Faribault, Minn.

Missouri District

32. John W. Mueller, B. of D., Paul Brown Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.
33. F. A. Keck, B. of D., 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
34. John F. Peters, 86 Arundel Pl., St. Louis, Mo.
35. Mrs. Ida Pauley, 7323 Maryland Ave., University City, Mo.

36. O. C. Grueninger, 5332 Tholozan Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
37. A. H. Steinbeck, Union, Mo.

Nebraska District

38. Fred Ress, 3218 S. 40th St., Lincoln, Neb.
39. August Brauer, 2640 S. 11th St., Lincoln, Neb.

New York District

40. William Bender, 463 Parkside Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.
41. Edward Werle, 578 Park Ave., Meadville, Pa.
42. Henry Albrecht, 243 Denver St., Rochester, N. Y.
43. William Brown, 70 Corwin Road, Rochester, N. Y.

North Illinois District

44. E. W. Schumacher, 2043 Augusta Blvd., Chicago, Ill.
45. Dr. C. C. Busch, 409 Robeson Bldg., Champaign, Ill.
46. Dr. E. H. Hohman 7133 Yale Ave., Chicago, Ill.
47. W. D. Bobsin, 3423 Parker Ave., Chicago, Ill.
48. George Deppert, 1212 Caroline St., Pekin, Ill.
49. A. C. Dittmann, 1436 Foster Ave., Chicago, Ill.
50. Arthur Schleicher, 718 Lincoln Ave., LaSalle, Ill.
51. Peter Gerdes, 189 Virginia Ave., Elmhurst, Ill.

Ohio District

52. Jacob Haller, 2025 W. 25th St., Cleveland, O.
53. Wm. C. Hazlebeck, 926 Gay St., Portsmouth, O.
54. E. G. Trautman, 531 E. Desher Ave., Columbus, O.
55. Carl D. Fischer, Jr., c/o Wapakoneta Machine Company, Wapakoneta, O.
56. E. C. Gerstacker, c/o Rev. O. H. Zwilling, 4229 W. 35th St., Cleveland, O.

Pacific Northwest District

57. Mrs. Edw. A. Mayer, 1616 S. E. Nehalem St., Portland, Ore.

Pennsylvania District

58. L. E. Matz, Woodsfield, O.
59. Ernest Lache, 76 Edison St., Mt. Troy, N. S., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Southern District

60. Joseph Staba, 617 Webster St., New Orleans, La.

South Illinois District

61. W. C. Heyl, Waterloo, Ill.
62. F. G. Rapp, Columbia, Ill.
63. Val. Hirth, 7 S. High St., Belleville, Ill.
64. F. T. Hotz, Hoyleton, Ill.
65. Herbert Pfeifer, Mascoutah, Ill.

Texas District

66. A. R. Scheef, R. R. 1, Marlin, Tex.
67. R. C. Malitz, Jr., 1503 Milby St., Houston, Tex.
68. H. F. Pochyla, 1214 N. 18th St., Waco, Tex.

West Missouri District

69. L. Bahrenburg, Sedalia, Mo.
70. Wm. Buschmeyer, Boonville, Mo.

Wisconsin District

71. H. E. Schowalter, 1313 N. 46th St., Milwaukee, Wis.
72. O. Wiechering, 139 Evans St., Oshkosh, Wis.
73. Robert Wendt, Menomonee Falls, Wis.
74. Wm. Andressohn, 2119 E. Trowbridge, Milwaukee, Wis.
75. Wm. Quandt, 3926a N. 16th St., Milwaukee, Wis.

India Mission District

76. Rev. Wm. Baur, c/o Mr. Fred Axthelm, 648 Forest Ave., Webster Groves, Mo.

Those Attending Conference without Vote

LAITY

77. J. P. Hennings, Manager, Eden Publishing House, 1724 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
78. Prof. S. A. Kruse, Ph.D., Southeast Mo. State Teachers College, Cape Girardeau, Mo.
79. William J. Volkmer, President, Mutual Fire and Storm Insurance Assoc., 1112 S. 13th St., Burlington, Iowa.
80. Mrs. R. Mernitz, President, Women's Union, 130 W. Hickory St., Chicago Heights, Ill.
81. W. H. Witthaus, President, Evang. Brotherhood, 7008 Waterman Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
82. A. R. Keppel, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
83. Mrs. Elsa Reichenbach, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

To the Special General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America, in session at Zion Evangelical Church, Cleveland, Ohio.

My Esteemed Co-workers:

We meet today in solemn convocation to complete the preliminaries for an organic union with the Reformed Church in the United States. The occasion is rendered solemn by reason of the fact that by the consummation of the merger we relinquish our identity as the Evangelical Synod of North America. It is with mingled emotions that, as we traverse the development of our church in the well-nigh 94 years of its history, we pause in earnest contemplation of the past. Inadvertently our thoughts linger with men and their contributions of service and devotion, with events and their influence upon the thought-life of the church, with struggles and achievements, failures and victories, and over all with the firm conviction of the ever-present guidance of divine providence by which our church was sustained, blessed and prospered. May we ever remember the many mercies of God by which we were kept, held and enriched. It was the patriarch Jacob who said: "I am not worthy of the least of all the lovingkindnesses, and of all the truth, which thou hast shown unto thy servant." Surely these are also our sentiments.

We sincerely believe that God has guided us to this place and to this event in the development of our church life. Therefore we go forth to approach our task, though in different environments and with new associations with an abiding faith in the wisdom with which He has directed us and a sincere trust in His never-failing leadership. But ere we proceed on our way to assume higher tasks, to accept increased responsibilities and to enjoy extended privileges we stand at solemn attention bowed in grief over the peculiar manifestation of God's providence, who in His indiscernable wisdom saw fit to call the president and leader of our Synod from his task at a time when according to human judgment we could ill afford to spare him. When after having served his church as president for four years, Dr. C. W. Locher accepted a recommitment to this task at the General Conference last October, he seemed to possess a full equipment in body, mind and soul for the increased responsibilities incumbent upon his office in view of the approaching consummation of the merger. He applied himself diligently to complete the preliminaries attendant upon this event. Apparently without warning he was stricken down, the nature of his illness giving no immediate cause for alarm. As his physical powers failed him he succumbed very quickly. We revere the memory

of our sainted leader and bow in humble submission to the will of God whom he loved and served and whose will to do he accepted as his choicest privilege. Dr. Locher brought to his task as president of the Synod an obedience to the call of his church which implied a willingness to render every possible service of which he was capable. His fitness for his office was represented by deep humility, sincere consecration to his calling, a sympathetic interest in the problems of his fellow-ministers, a spiritual analysis of Christ's message and the church's mission to the world. Increasingly he impressed the constituency of the church with the sincerity of his endeavor to maintain vital contacts with the spiritual resources of power. He excelled in unselfish devotion to His Lord and fully merited the encomium of the Lord, "in whom there is no guile."

The Board of Directors of the Synod adopted appropriate resolutions as a tribute of respect to the memory of Dr. Locher which were published in the Friedensbote and Evangelical Herald, a copy of which was fittingly engrossed and sent to Mrs. Locher and family.

Following the death of Dr. Locher it devolved upon me to assume the duties of his office. By reason of my incumbency of the office of first vice-president, the succession to the office of president became the mandate of my church. There was no alternative for me to take without proving myself disloyal to the confidence reposed in me. May I, however, say that I accepted the responsibilities of this position with positive reluctance, undisguised diffidence and pronounced misgivings, purely guided by a sense of duty.

The Board of Directors has appointed a committee to indicate the legal status of our Synod and the probable functioning powers in the interim until all legal and organizational adjustments have been effected.

The official call for this special session of the General Conference indicates the purpose for which primarily we are assembled. In consonance with the action of the 26th General Conference and in conjunction with the commission on church union the call was issued by the Board of Directors. As we enter upon the deliberations of the final details preliminary to the consummation of the merger may I remind you of the resolutions adopted by the 26th General Conference which are sufficiently significant and directive to be embodied in this report:

"Whereas, sincere and consistent disciples of Jesus have ever remembered their Master's fervent prayer, 'That they may all be one,' and

"Whereas, diligence to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace has always been a cherished Evangelical tradition and a vital part of the program of the Evangelical Synod of North America, and

"Whereas, we are of the profound conviction that the Reformed Church in the United States is founded and grounded on the same essential Protestant doctrines of Christian faith and ideals of Christian life, and

"Whereas, more than the requisite number of Districts of the Evangelical Synod of North America have now wholeheartedly and unreservedly approved the Plan of Union with the Reformed Church in the United States, therefore,

"Be it resolved, that the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America assembled in regular session at Cincinnati, Ohio, October 3-10, 1933, formally approves the organic union with the Reformed Church in the United States, as embodied in the Plan of Union submitted to it, and

"Be it further resolved, that the Board of Directors be instructed to call a special General Conference when requested by its Commission on Church Union for the purpose of consummating the above mentioned union."

In order that we may be assured of divine guidance as we approach the task which claims our interest and attention we as Christians instinctively turn to some scriptural truth. As a basis for our deliberations may I suggest the all-inclusive statement which the fearless leader, the head of the Christian Church, Jesus Christ himself made in John 6: 38, "For I am come down from heaven, not to do mine own will but the will of him that sent me." This truth is self-explanatory and requires no commentary. To do the will of God was the life of Jesus. It was not necessary for him to adapt himself to the will of God as one accepts a mandate. In the inner self of his being, in the deepest consciousness of his soul he instinctively reacted to the will of God. He explains his attitude in the most succinct manner with another statement: "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to accomplish his work." Jesus did not attempt to interpret the will of God in his life theoretically. He simply lived it out in every word, in every action, in every attitude.

Whether we can accept the consummation of the merger as being in accord with God's will depends upon us, upon the attitude of our soul toward His will. If God wills it, no other argument on our part will be necessary. It remains for us to ascertain the will of God. The mutual approaches of both churches to this vital consideration have proceeded from the endeavor to make the essential contacts with the will of God through earnest prayer which in turn have resulted in a visible guidance in the negotiations and which have finally developed into a deep consciousness and a firm conviction of God's approval. In all deliberations in the meetings of the commissions on church union, at the conferences of the respective Districts and in the action of the General Conference the answer seemed to be forthcoming by the unanimous assent to the proposed merger.

The deliberations have been concluded, the resolutions approving the merger have been adopted. Our purpose today is to enter upon the actual consummation of the merger. If our action today shall be in accord with the will of God, we will not be chiefly interested in the mechanics of the merger. We must not be unduly concerned about the technical difficulties which may disturb us. God forbid that we should stoop to means and methods to gain an advantage. Principally we enter into a spiritual union with the Reformed Church, and if our approach is made on the basis of the spiritual implications of the merger we need not become agitated about possible technical difficulties. As we have been guided by the spirit of God in the development of the negotiations so will we be directed by the same spirit into the correct organizational adjustments which will become necessary, which will not even preclude the safeguarding of the principles of our legal incorporation. Therefore we will do well to heed the suggestion of the commission on church union and I quote from the report: "It is obvious that the proposed union can be consummated only on the basis of mutual confidence and an abiding faith in the guidance of the Spirit of the living God."

For the peace of our mind and soul, and in order to clear us from all doubts and fears we need to subject ourselves, our hearts and souls to the most honest and searching scrutiny. May we explore the deepest spiritual resources of our soul to determine whether we are really so completely committed to the will of God to accept a program and a mode of procedure purely upon the basis of faith and trust, leaving the details to the direction by the Spirit of God.

By our union with the Reformed Church we are being merged into a new organization which calls for new adjustments, new attitudes and new endeavors. Unless we proceed from the right base of operations we may easily become confused, therefore it behooves us, individually and

collectively, to approach the Throne of God in earnest prayer and in sincere consecration to the will of God pleading with him to "create in us a clean heart and to restore a right spirit within us," so that our spirit may be subjected to the will of God and renewed in the manner so that our approach to every task will be guided by the conviction that in the Kingdom of God and in the church we realize our aims "not by might or by power but by the spirit of God." May we be renewed into spirit-filled lives and in our attitudes become sincerely Christ-minded.

If time permits, the attention of the General Conference may be directed to several communications which have been submitted for consideration which I will refer to the Committee on General Resolutions and Findings. May I also request the General Conference to give earnest consideration to the financial situation of the Synod with special emphasis upon the Synodical Recovery Plan. The Treasurer of the Synod, Mr. F. A. Keck, has kindly consented to present a financial report and offer an explanation of the Recovery Plan.

It is an occasion of much joy and satisfaction to be privileged to report officially the accreditation of Elmhurst College as a four-year standard college by the North Central Association of Colleges. We rejoice with Dr. Timothy Lehmann, the president, and the Board of Trustees of Elmhurst College that this aim has finally been realized.

And now may the Christ, who is the head of the Church, guide us in our deliberations and fill us with His spirit so that we will be prepared to do His will in accepting the challenge for higher service in His Church and Kingdom.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Press.

The first report on which the Conference was called to take action was the one presented by the Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union, presented by the Rev. L. W. Goebel.

Before going into consideration of this report, the Rev. S. D. Press, D. D., moved that to the Rev. H. R. Niebuhr, D. D., former chairman of the Commission on Church Union, be granted the privileges of the floor, as is customary in such circumstances. So voted.

The Rev. Goebel prefaced his report by paying tribute to the memory of Dr. J. Baltzer, the Rev. Ewald Kockritz, and the Rev. C. W. Locher, D. D., who all had made invaluable contributions to the cause of Church Union.

The report was adopted by a rising vote, unanimously, as presented.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON CHURCH UNION SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

Cleveland, Ohio, June 26, 1934.

To the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America:

Your Commission on Church Union begs leave to submit the following report.

The Plan of Union of the Evangelical Synod of North America and the Reformed Church in the United States, presented by your Commission to the President of the Synod, the late Dr. C. W. Locher, was by him submitted to the District Conferences in the spring of 1933. Inasmuch as nineteen districts recorded an affirmative vote, the Plan of Union was thereby submitted for final action to the General Conference in session at Cincinnati, Ohio, October 3rd to 10th, 1933, and was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

According to Article XII of the Plan of Union, "when the Plan has

been approved by regular action of the two negotiating Churches, the President and the Secretary or Stated Clerk of the Supreme Judicatory of each Church shall report the action to the Commissions on Union of the negotiating Churches, who shall then request the officers of the supreme judicatories to call a special meeting of each judicatory at the same time and place."

In compliance with the favorable action of the General Synod and the Classes of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Districts and the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America, the Commissions on Union of the two Churches have requested the officers of each supreme judicatory to call a special meeting at Cleveland, Ohio, June 26, 1934; the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States to meet in the Eighth Reformed Church and the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod to meet in Zion Evangelical Church.

Your Commission offers the following resolutions for your consideration and action:

Resolved, first, that the President of the General Conference assembled in special session declare the Plan of Union of the Evangelical Synod of North America and the Reformed Church in the United States regularly approved and adopted;

Second, that the Commission on Church Union be requested to bear the greetings of the President and the members of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America to the President and General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States now assembled in the Eighth Reformed Church, and to announce to that honorable body that the officers and members of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America are prepared to meet with the officers and members of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States in the Zion Evangelical Church on the evening of this day, June 26th, at seven o'clock, in accordance with the provision of Article XII of the Plan of Union, which is as follows: "In joint session of the judicatories the final report of the Churches on the Plan of Union shall be made. The supreme judicatories of the Churches shall declare by joint resolution that the Union of the Churches is duly effected at that time."

These resolutions, recommended for adoption by the Committee on Interim Functions and Powers, were unanimously adopted.

This report having been adopted by the General Conference, President Press officially declared that the Plan of Union has been finally adopted, and thereby the merger has been consummated.

President Press requested Chairman L. W. Goebel, to proceed, with the other members of the Commission on Church Union, to the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, now in session in the Eighth Reformed Church, Cleveland, Ohio, to notify same of the action of the Evangelical Synod of North America.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF LAWYERS OF THE EVANGELICAL SYNOD OF NORTH AMERICA AND THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

This report was presented by the Rev. L. W. Goebel, as chairman of the Commission on Church Union, and was referred to the Committee on Legal Status and Interim Functions and Powers of the Administration.

Before adjourning at 11:30 A. M., the members of the Conference stood in silent prayer in memory of our departed leader, the Rev. C. W. Locher, D. D.

Afternoon Session

The Conference reconvened at 1:30 P. M., and received the committee of the Reformed Church in the United States—Dr. George W. Richards, Dr. Charles E. Miller, Dr. J. C. Leonard, and Judge D. J. Snyder—which had been delegated to bring special greetings to the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America. The message was delivered by Dr. Richards who declared that the Plan of Union has been legally adopted by the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, its classes and synods, and the General Synod is now ready and prepared to meet with the Evangelical Synod of North America to declare by joint resolution that the union is formally effected. The Rev. Timothy Lehmann, D. D., as Moderator, made formal reply.

Miss Hilda Huefe, Secretary to Dr. Paul A. Menzel, brought greetings from Dr. Menzel, expressing his regret at not being able to attend the conference, and wishing the conference God's blessings in its deliberations. The greetings were received with thanks, and the Secretary was instructed to make suitable reply.

As there was no committee report ready at this time, the conference was edified by an impromptu address delivered by the Honorable President, Paul Press, in which he called attention to the spirit motivating the union, and the greater possibilities of a combined effort. He also made a plea for more cooperation in an adequate support of the Synod's work.

The conference members and visitors took great pleasure in joining in the singing of a hymn written by Dr. J. H. Horstmann, using the tune "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies." The words follow:

Words by Dr. Horstmann

They came across the ocean wide,
Brave pioneers and bold,
To gain new freedom for their faith
And found new homes for old.
America, America,
Land of the brave and free.
Let praises ring
To God our King
For glorious liberty!

They brought with them the sacred book
Of God's own truth and life;
They held it firm in pious hearts
Through years of toil and strife.
With Luther bold, and Calvin strong
They built their churches here;
Their children now
In reverence bow
And hold their mem'ry dear.

Our fathers' God, to Thee we turn
In this great solemn hour,
And pray for vision and for faith,
And for thy Spirit's power.
O Jesus Christ, our risen Lord,
May we be true to Thee!
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
In joy and unity. Amen.

At this time Mr. John W. Mueller delivered his address on the subject: "The Legal Status of the Evangelical Synod in the Interim between the Approval of the Merger and the Drafting and Filing of the New Constitution of the United Church."

Before entering into the discussion of the report of the Committee on Resolutions and others, it was voted, upon motion of the Rev. L. W. Goebel, to grant the privilege of the floor to Pastors J. H. Horstmann, D. D., Frederick Frankenfeld, LL. D., and F. R. Schreiber.

The report of the Committee on Legal Status and Interim Functions and Powers of Administration was adopted as follows:

Whereas, the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America, convened in regular session, duly approved the Plan of Union adopted on February 12, 1932, at a joint meeting of the Commissions on Church Union of the Evangelical Synod of North America and the Reformed Church in the United States and which Plan of Union had, previous to the said session of the General Conference, been duly approved by more than a majority of the district conferences of the Evangelical Synod of North America; and

Whereas, the Board of Directors of the Evangelical Synod of North America, at the request of the Commission on Church Union of the said Synod, has called this special meeting of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod for the purpose of consummating the uniting of the Evangelical Synod of North America and the Reformed Church in the United States in one body; and

Whereas, this General Conference is officially informed that the said Plan of Union has been regularly approved by the supreme and subordinate judicatories of the Reformed Church in the United States, as specified in said Plan of Union; and

Whereas, the Evangelical Synod of North America is a corporation organized under the laws of the States of Missouri and Illinois and is conducting and administering its affairs and performing its functions as such and the Reformed Church is an unincorporated voluntary association; and

Whereas, the Evangelical Synod of North America owns and controls real and personal property in its corporate name which property it administers in accordance with the provisions of its charter consisting of its constitution approved by the Circuit Court of the City of St. Louis, Missouri, and by the by-laws adopted in accordance therewith:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America is now ready to meet with the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States for the purpose of declaring by joint resolution of the two bodies that the Evangelical Synod of North America and the Reformed Church in the United States are then and thereby united in one body;

Resolved, further, that, when such union shall have been effected, due regard shall be had to those reservations in the Plan of Union which relate to the rights of property, real and personal, of each constituent Church and the continuance for a while of their respective subordinate judicatories, classes and districts;

Resolved, further, that the need be recognized for the continuance of the corporate existence of the Evangelical Synod of North America until the Evangelical and Reformed Church shall have adopted a constitution and by-laws in accordance with the Plan of Union or until it shall have become incorporated, by a two-thirds vote of its General Synod, at which time all property and rights held by the constituent churches or by such corporation shall be conveyed, transferred and delivered, to the united Church or to the corporation into which it may have been formed; but,

in the meantime, the said property and rights are to be held and enjoyed by said constituent churches in harmony with the spirit and purpose of the Plan of Union and in the way in which the united Church will be most aided and, insofar as the law of the creation of each constituent church will permit, in compliance with the action of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

The Rev. F. L. Rodenbeck, reporting for the Committee on Resolutions, presented that Committee's resolutions on the President's report, which, after having been discussed seriatim, were adopted as follows:

Committee on Resolutions on the President's Report

1. The Evangelical Synod reveres the memory of its sainted leader, the Rev. Dr. C. W. Locher, and bows in humble submission to the will of God whom he loved and served. In full appreciation of his leadership and unselfish devotion to his Lord and his Church, the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod accepts the resolutions of sympathy of its Board of Directors as its own. (Adopted by a rising vote.)

2. The General Conference appreciates the fine spirit in which the Rev. Paul Press accepted the responsibilities of office following the death of Dr. Locher and expresses its confidence in his leadership.

3. The Evangelical Synod of North America assembled in special conference before the consummation of its union with the Reformed Church in the United States gives honor and glory to God for the manifold blessings with which He has sustained the work of the Synod, and expresses its abiding faith in His continued guidance.

4. The General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America calls upon all members of the Synod to face the new adjustments which will be necessary in effecting the organization of the merged churches, with the conviction that in the Kingdom of God and in the church we realize our aim, "not by might or by power but by the spirit of the living God."

5. The General Conference votes its appreciation to the Committee on Church Union and its Committee of Lawyers for their untiring endeavors in the cause of union.

6. The General Conference endorses the Synodical Recovery Plan and urges all members of the Evangelical Synod to give it their whole-hearted co-operation.

7. The General Conference notes with joy and satisfaction the accreditation of Elmhurst College as a four-year standard college by the North Central Association of Colleges. We rejoice with Dr. Timothy Lehmann, the President, and the Board of Trustees of Elmhurst College that this aim has finally been realized, and thank all who so ardently worked to this end.

8. The General Conference expresses its sincere appreciation and thanks for the hospitality of the Evangelical Churches of Cleveland and their pastors and particularly to Zion Evangelical Church and its pastor, Rev. Oscar Wittlinger.

*Rev. Charles Enders
Rev. F. L. Rodenbeck
Rev. Theo. A. Thomas
Rev. Theo. R. Schmale
Rev. J. M. Munz
Mr. John Abele
Mr. A. R. Scheef
Mr. Henry Goebel*

An informal discussion was indulged in in connection with matters having to do with the merger and its effect on the various activities of the Evangelical Synod and its Boards.

The Moderator called attention to the fact that the Rev. J. E. Digel, of Massillon, Ohio, has been in the service of the Evangelical ministry longer than any other member of the General Conference present. The Conference honored the Rev. Digel by rising, and the Moderator called upon the Rev. Digel to dismiss this, the last session of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America, with prayer and benediction, as soon as adjournment had been taken.

Before adjournment, however, it was voted to authorize the Equalization Committee to adjust traveling expenses as necessary.

It was voted further to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to empower the Moderator to accept the minutes for the Conference.

Then followed adjournment, the Conference joining in singing "Herz und Herz vereint zusammen," after which the Rev. Digel led in prayer and pronounced the benediction.

Night Session

According to the plan prepared, the delegates of the Evangelical Synod of North America and those of the Reformed Church in the United States were to meet in Zion Evangelical Church for a joint session on Tuesday night, June 26th, at seven o'clock.

The Reformed delegates met at the Pilgrim Congregational Church, from which they proceeded to Zion Evangelical Church, where the Evangelical delegates were awaiting their coming. Meeting at the church door, President Paul Press and President Henry J. Christman entered the sanctuary together, after which the delegates of the merging churches entered, two by two, an Evangelical delegate and a Reformed delegate walking together.

The officers and the Commissions on Union occupied the platform, while the members of the joint conference took the places reserved for them. The Rev. Paul Press acted as presiding officer and the Rev. Henry Christman conducted the devotional services. The prayer was spoken by the Rev. Dr. J. C. Leonard, of Lexington, North Carolina.

The agenda as submitted by the joint Commission on Union was adopted. The reports of the Roll Clerks showed a quorum present.

The reports of the Chairmen of the Committees were submitted by the Rev. Louis W. Goebel and the Rev. George W. Richards, D. D., as follows: "The General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States and the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America having now assembled in joint session in order to receive official and final report of the action of each Church on the Plan of Union, according to the provision of Article XII, I beg leave to report for the Commission on Church Union that the Evangelical Synod of North America has regularly adopted the plan of Union and the delegates of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America are prepared to declare by joint resolution that the union of the two churches is duly effected."

(In the above resolution the words pertaining to the Evangelical Synod of North America are to be replaced by those pertaining to the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, in the resolution presented by Dr. Richards.)

After adopting the above reports, the union was ratified by adoption of the following joint resolution:

"Whereas, the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America, by regular action of the Districts and

the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America and of the General Synod and the Classes of the Reformed Church in the United States, have adopted the Plan of Union submitted to these bodies by the Commission on Church Union,

Be it resolved, first, that the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States and the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America, in joint sessions assembled this day, June 26th, 7 P. M., 1934, hereby declare that the Plan of Union has been legally adopted;

Second, that the union of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America is now effected under the name of 'Evangelical and Reformed Church';

Third, that the consummation of the union be formally pronounced by the President of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States and the President of the Evangelical Synod of North America, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost;

Fourth, that, pending the devotional services, this Joint Session be declared adjourned."

Following the adoption of the above resolutions, the president of the Reformed Church in the United States, the Rev. Henry Christman, and the President of the Evangelical Synod of North America, the Rev. Paul Press, in well chosen words pronounced the union of the two church bodies as being formally effected. The presidents of the merging church bodies thereupon clasped hands, at 7:50 o'clock, and thus symbolised the union of the two churches. With the singing of the hymn "Now thank we all our God," this session of the first joint meeting of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America came to an end, to be resumed immediately as a Communion service of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. In this service the Rev. Lee Erdman of Reading, Pennsylvania, delivered the sermon from the text 1 Corinthians 10: 16, and pastors Paul Press and Henry Christman administered the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, with the assistance of a number of pastors of the former Reformed Church and the Evangelical Synod.

*F. A. Meusch, Secretary.
Timothy Lehmann, Moderator.
Paul Press, President.*

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Paying Basis for the Year 1933

Boards	
Eden Theological Seminary	\$28,176.00
Elmhurst College	58,008.00
Oakwood Institute	1,608.00
Home Mission	86,604.00
Foreign Mission	81,000.00
Religious Education	19,009.00
Ministerial Pension Fund	43,008.00
Pastors' Homes	1,860.00
Evangelical Brotherhoods	2,100.00
Evangelical Women's Union	1,896.00
Evangelical League	2,424.00
Synodical Treasury	30,000.00
Debt Reduction	9,000.00
Church Extension Fund	1,200.00
	\$365,892.00

Budget Receipts by Months

February	\$15,001.92
March	14,185.34
April	21,734.09
May	26,054.86
June	19,389.40
July	16,753.27
August	16,972.68
September	25,531.18
October	32,590.68
November	31,881.36
December	29,370.39
January	64,042.84
	—————\$313,508.01

Budget Deficit, 1933 \$ 52,383.99

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements

RECEIPTS

From Districts, for Disposal on Budget Basis	
Atlantic	\$ 15,189.01
California	2,951.15
Colorado	1,726.91
Indiana	44,635.51
Iowa	14,004.94
Kansas	4,812.52
Michigan	14,141.94
Minnesota	9,625.11
Missouri	37,754.83
Nebraska	5,812.57
New York	29,968.45
North Illinois	28,309.38
Ohio	30,169.89
Pacific Northwest	1,183.28
Pennsylvania	6,464.55
South Illinois	21,253.14
Southern	4,965.48
Texas	5,524.45
West Missouri	13,265.49
Wisconsin	21,317.89
Montana Mission	426.52
India Mission	5.00
	—————\$313,508.01

From Special Designations for Boards on Budget Basis

Eden Seminary	\$ 646.61
Elmhurst College	144.49
Oakwood Institute	26.00
Home Mission	\$ 4,196.71
Ozark Mission	435.33
Seamen's Mission	32.34
Biloxi Mission	1,036.83
Mission Churches	387.23
Women's Union Project:	
A Parsonage on Madeline Island	1,325.42
Maternity Hospital, Biloxi, Miss.	376.77
	—————
	7,790.63

Foreign Mission	28,632.92
Honduras	262.48
Lepers	428.89
Women's Union Project:	
A Mission Station in Honduras	1,325.41
Women's Work—Raipur, India	356.56
Katherine Goetsch Memorial	10,191.76
	41,198.02
Ministerial Pension Fund	2,199.16
Pastors' Homes	65.75
Women's Union Project:	
A Pastors' Home at Blue Springs	1,325.40
	1,391.15
Church Extension	58.00
Religious Education	42.60
Ev. Student Chapel—Columbia, Mo.	5.75
Dunkirk	148.74
Evangelical Women's Union	1.80
Budget Promotion	400.00
	54,052.95
Carried Forward	\$367,560.96

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements

DISBURSEMENTS

To Boards on Budget Basis:

Eden Theological Seminary	\$ 28,176.00
Elmhurst College	58,008.00
Oakwood Institute	2,456.00
Home Mission	86,604.00
Foreign Mission	81,000.00
Ministerial Pension Fund	43,008.00
Pastors' Homes	1,860.00
Church Extension	1,200.00
Religious Education	19,008.00
Evangelical Brotherhood	2,100.00
Evangelical Women's Union	1,896.00
Evangelical League	2,424.00
Debt Reduction	8,500.00
Synodical Treasury (See following Statement)	32,671.98
Total	\$368,911.98

Oakwood Institute had \$1,920.00 due from 1932 Budget.

Oakwood Institute has \$1,072.00 due from 1933 Budget.

Debt Reduction account has a balance of \$500.00.

To Boards on Budget Basis for Special Designations:

Eden Seminary	\$ 646.61
Elmhurst College	144.49
Oakwood Institute	26.00
Home Mission	7,556.13
Zion Ev. Church, Long Beach, Calif.	134.50
Grace Church, Grosse Pointe, Mich.	100.00
Foreign Mission	41,198.05
Ministerial Pension Fund	2,199.16
Pastors' Homes	1,391.15
Church Extension	58.00

Religious Education	42.60
Evangelical League (Student Chapel, Columbia, Mo.)	5.75
Dunkirk	148.74
Evangelical Women's Union	1.80
Budget Promotion	1,405.26
Total	\$ 55,058.24

To Special Designations, not on Budget Basis:

Pastors' Emergency Relief Fund	\$ 475.00
Caroline Mission	106.79
St. Louis Institution and Hospital Mission	2.00
Chicago City Mission	10.00
Mohri Fund	5.00
Eden Seminary (Women's Union Student Aid Fund)	440.30
Elmhurst College (Women's Union Student Aid Fd.)	440.31
Eden Seminary (Student Tuition)	25.00
Elmhurst College (Student Tuition)	25.00
Elmhurst Acct.—Elmhurst-Eden Advance..	\$51,179.65
Eden Account—E. E. Advance	39,052.77
	90,232.42
Memorial Fund—Mrs. Katherine Goetsch	310.36
Legacies Paid (See following Statement)	700.00
Charities (See following Statement)	6,265.96
Total	\$ 99,038.14

Carried Forward

RECEIPTS

Brought Forward	\$367,560.96
For Special Designations not on Budget Basis:	
Budget Deficit	\$ 11,596.94
Pastors' Emergency Relief Fund	311.00
Caroline Mission	106.79
St. Louis Institution and Hospital Mission	2.00
Chicago City Mission	10.00
Mohri Fund	5.00
Evangelical Women's Union Student Aid Fund	880.61
Student's Tuition	50.00
Elmhurst Account—E. E. Advance	\$71,268.83
Eden Account—E. E. Advance	23,427.14
	94,695.97
Memorial Fund—Mrs. Kath. Goetsch	310.36
Annuities Received	10,500.00
Legacies (See following Statement)	3,925.00
Charities (See following Statement)	6,369.88
Total	\$128,763.55

Other Receipts

Interest received on Annuity Investments	\$ 2,118.66
Interest received on Endowments	1,345.06
Interest received on Loans	6,142.60
Special Donations, Synodical Treasury	200.00
Rent—Bertha Hasse Estate	150.00
Fritz Doermann Estate	252.68
Accommodation Account	4,188.00
Bank Loans	68,000.00
Other Loans	146,650.00
Wilhelmine Meyer Estate Fund	178.88
Rev. A. E. Helm Foundation	5.85
Robinson Academy Funds Account	147.46
Sale of Securities (Annuities)	11,900.00
Repayment of Advances to Boards:	
Evangelical League	600.00
 Total	 \$241,879.19
 Total Receipts	 \$738,203.70

SUMMARY

February 1, 1933, Bank Overdraft	\$ 41,206.08
Disbursements during Year	693,825.44
 Receipts during Year	 \$735,031.52
 Bank Balance, February 1, 1934	 \$738,203.70

DISBURSEMENTS

Brought Forward

\$523,008.36

Other Disbursements

Maintenance—Schreiber's Farm	\$ 64.97
Interest Paid on Annuities	5,859.00
Interest Paid on Bank Loans	1,355.47
Interest Paid on Bonds and Loans	10,263.00
Bertha Hasse Estate	328.57
Fritz Doermann Estate, Notes Receivable	233.33
Accommodation Account	4,384.65
Notes Payable—Banks	83,000.00
Notes Payable—Others	60,275.00
Notes Receivable (Special Account)	1,963.60
Accounts Receivable	85.91
Eden Seminary (Rev. A. E. Helm Foundation)	5.85
Robinson Academy Funds Account	47.73
Loans:	
Board of Religious Education	150.00
Evangelical League	2,800.00
 Total	 \$170,817.08

Total Disbursements

\$693,825.44

SYNODICAL TREASURY DISBURSEMENTS

Officers' Salaries:

Rev. C. W. Locher, D.D., President	\$3,537.96
F. A. Keck, General Treasurer	3,435.00
Rev. H. Bode, D.D.	1,500.00
Rev. H. Vieth, Executive Secretary	3,263.25
	_____ \$ 11,736.21

Office Expense:

President	2,417.20
Treasurer	3,159.48
Executive Secretary	5,179.46
Rev. H. Bode, D.D.	900.00
	_____ 11,656.14

Traveling Expense:

Board of Directors	456.35
Constitutional Revision Committee	77.42
Pastors' First Charge	164.50
Meeting Federal Council, Washington, D. C.	55.64
General Committee, Educational Institutions ...	101.10
Committee on Church Union	276.73
District Conferences	188.29
Finance Committee	57.27
General Conference	27.15
Home Mission Board Meeting, Indianapolis	4.25
	_____ 1,408.70

Carried Forward	\$ 24,801.05
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Printing:

Annual Reports	\$ 837.56
Mite Boxes	252.95
Reports, General Conference	1,826.84
President's Reports	112.25
Reprints of Dr. Locher's Reports	12.75
Advertising Bonds in Friedensbote and Herald..	12.88
Deficit Envelopes	533.89
Letter Heads, Transportation Committee.....	5.40
Acknowledgement of Foreign Charities	19.44
	_____ 3,613.56

Miscellaneous:

Expense of President's Residence:

Interest	\$525.00
Repairs	41.28
Insurance	50.45
	616.73

Federal Council of Churches	1,800.00
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Friedensbote and Herald to retired Ministers and Ministers' Widows	495.00
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Sundries	5.00
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Safe Deposit Box	16.50
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Professional Services, Audit of Treasurers' Books	250.00
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Historical Commission	15.00
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Treasurers' Bonds	546.50
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Federal Check Tax	16.38
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General Conference	56.00
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Committee on Evangelism	30.45
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Howard Payne Bond	5.00
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Legal Service	75.00
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Picture Frames, Past Presidents	36.45
World Conference Committee Dues	20.00
Chicago World's Fair Exhibit	1,261.75
Portrait of Rev. Wall	20.00
	5,265.76
Honorarium:	
Rev. F. C. Klick	125.00
Rev. L. W. Goebel	125.00
Rev. F. A. Meusch	200.00
John W. Mueller	250.00
J. C. Fischer	125.00
	825.00
Total Disbursements	\$ 34,505.37
Deduct:	
Refund of Premium on Bond of Treasurer	45.00
Refund, General Council, Part Cost of Meeting..	10.00
Refund, General Conference	216.64
Refund, Chicago World's Fair Exhibit	1,261.75
Refund, Treasurer's Office Account	300.00
	1,833.39
	\$ 32,671.98
	LEGACIES
Helen Selle	Received Paid out
Home Mission	\$ 100.00
Foreign Mission	100.00
Emmaus Home, Marthasville	100.00
Eden Seminary	100.00
Elmhurst College	100.00
Chas. Dralle	
Eden Seminary	300.00
Elmhurst College	300.00
Ministerial Pension Fund	200.00
Orphans' Home, St. Louis, Mo.	200.00
Louise Yeager	
Foreign Mission	350.00
Home Mission	350.00
Doris Gmelich	
Evangelical Synod of North America	200.00
Mrs. Alice Hornkohl	
Care of Lepers in India	50.00
Aged Poor in Germany	25.00
Crippled Children in Germany	25.00
Mrs. Marie Diener	
Home Mission Work	125.00
John Koch	
Home Mission	100.00
Foreign Mission	100.00
Ministerial Pension Fund	100.00
Mrs. Mina Sandmann	
Elmhurst-Eden Advance	500.00
Pauline Goetsch Dallmeyer	
Elmhurst College	500.00
Synodical Treasury	200.00
Elmhurst-Eden Advance	500.00
	\$3,925.00 \$ 700.00

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

In the very nature of things my report to the special General Conference meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, on June 26 of this year, must concern itself as briefly as possible with two questions:

1. What contribution can and should we make to the proper co-ordination of the general promotional work of the two uniting bodies, and also to the administration of the two bodies that is closely connected with the promotional work?
2. How and under what directives should our own promotional work be carried on until this complete coordination is established?

In spite of a natural and understandable reluctance to make definite and detailed suggestions in regard to question number 1, I feel in duty bound to call attention to certain facts that we dare not overlook. The Reformed Church in the U. S. A. is quite evidently desirous of working out properly coordinated plans for the general promotional work and the administrative features connected with it. They have a staff of considerable experience, but unless we cooperate to the fullest extent, its members will naturally be guided by the precedents established by this experience. In the working out of plans for the united church, at least one person must be definitely assigned to this task, who can cooperate with the staff of the Reformed Church. This must be someone familiar with general promotional work who can spare sufficient time. For the task is by no means a small one. The representatives of other boards will have their hands more than filled with detailed work of coordinating the work of their respective boards, and could not possibly liberate the time for this particular task. It would not be fair to shirk our share of the responsibility for this work, and the plans without our cooperation would certainly fail to register with our people. Since we have no stated clerk employed on full time, the clerical detail work inevitably connected with the promotional task, must also fall on the shoulders of the person selected for this work. I am saying all this because the General Conference will have to realize that in the department of general promotion we are greatly understaffed and have sacrificed efficiency to economy. In the face of the quite evident determination to reduce our staff still further the General Conference will have to determine to whom this work shall be assigned and under whose supervision it shall be carried on.

In regard to question two I again direct attention to the fact that, since we have no stated clerk, both administrative and promotional duties were assigned to the office of the executive secretary of the General Council. Under direct instruction of both the General Conference and the General Council administrative duties have predominated during the past few years with a resultant lack of efficiency in promotion.

Our church can afford to neglect neither of these two departments of work in the interim until the merger becomes fully effective; to do so would be to break faith with the other party to the merger. At the same time it is apparent that neither one of the two tasks can be carried on in quite the same manner as before.

The General Conference will no doubt be wise enough to determine in how far our present constitution shall be in force during this interim period. I fear it will be impossible even if it were wise to adhere closely and fully to all the provisions of our constitution, for the fact of the merger will make a tremendous change. Yet there must be legal directives for the activities within our present church until the constitution of the merged body is accepted and filed and a complete church government set up. What shall these directives be?

Without going too much into detail, I may perhaps suggest that it might be wise to make the board of directors the sole general directive agency and make it responsible to the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. This would greatly simplify the whole administrative work and will make possible the quick and decisive action required for the process of the merger. The General Conference may then decide whether the sole remaining duty of determining the budget will justify the retention of the General Council during the interim. But the whole matter of administrative responsibility should be made unequivocally clear.

As far as the office which I at present occupy is concerned it seems to me almost necessary, but certainly both wise and profitable, that both its administrative and promotional functions should be made subordinate to the Board of Directors and placed under the personal direction of the president of the Synod. I do not see how else our administration can successfully cope with the many and varied tasks of the merger process.

I would like to say a word about our present promotional setup. This has been developed after years of effort and with the complete and full cooperation of our entire staff. We are convinced of its worth and would like to see its principal features preserved. Under this setup there is an executive committee of the committee on promotion, which meets monthly, consisting of the chairman and secretary of the committee on promotion and the chairmen of the four subcommittees. This committee passes on the recommendations and plans of the subcommittees and gives them instructions for further work. These four subcommittees are: Field, Unified Literature, Publicity, and Visual Education. It is the unanimous opinion of our entire staff that this setup should be retained and if possible strengthened by proper directive instructions of the General Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

H. P. Vieth.

REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Report of the Board of Directors of Eden Theological Seminary

Report of the President of Eden Theological Seminary

The present Board of Directors of Eden Seminary, elected as recently as October of last year, at the session of the General Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, and not assuming office until February 1st of the current year, has hardly had time to familiarize itself with the various phases of the task entrusted to it. The above conference elected the following men: Rev. G. Grauer, Rev. R. Niebuhr, D. D., Rev. P. C. Schnake, Rev. L. W. Goebel, Mr. E. H. Goetsch, and Mr. J. F. Peters. The by-laws of the Synod provide that these men so elected nominate three additional members to be approved by the Board of Directors of the Synod and the General Council. The members thus added to the Board are Rev. F. W. Schroeder, Rev. T. J. Herrmann, and Mr. Charles Wilke.

The Board held its first meeting on February 8th. It effected its organization by electing the following officers: Rev. L. W. Goebel, chairman, Mr. J. F. Peters, vice-chairman, Rev. G. Grauer, Secretary, and Rev. T. J. Herrmann, Treasurer.

The one item on the agenda of the above meeting, of more than passing interest to the church, was the presence of the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Central Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church, located at Dayton, Ohio, Dr. Stolte, as well as another member of that Board, Dr. Lees. These gentlemen had come to confer with us regarding the advisability and possibility of a merger of the two schools. A tentative plan of merger was agreed upon, according to which Central Semi-

nary will transfer its student body and several members of its faculty to Eden. Not only will a definite saving in monies be effected by such an arrangement, but the plan will make for greater efficiency. This matter will come before a meeting to be held in June for final action.

For information regarding the school itself we refer you to the report of the President, Dr. S. D. Press.

Respectfully submitted,

L. W. Goebel, chairman.

Report of the President of Eden Theological Seminary

Unless we belong to those who have eyes to see but see not, who have ears to hear but hear not, unless our minds are stupefied, we must needs be deeply aware of the fact that the judgments of God are abroad over the lands of civilization. The divine judgments do not exempt the church, rather do they have their storm-centre in the House of God. It is an hour of crisis for religion the world over, preeminently for Christendom.

If we truly sense the presence of God in the historical transformation going on before our eyes, then we know that this is a day not for human reporting but for divine accounting.

OUR CURRICULUM

What constituted the strength of our teaching word in this seminary in the past was not something attributable to human brilliancy but something that we owe to God's grace alone. Our most precious heritage is the Word of Revelation in its purity. If we would insure and increase the strength of our teaching we must keep the Bible as the backbone of our curriculum. It is just this consideration that constantly forces us to reconstruct our teaching program in such a way as to make it truly functional. Just as a healthy church is always conscious of the need of reformation, so the matter of building the curriculum of a school from year to year is a continuous process of learning how to accomplish our task better.

While we have zealously guarded a kind of apostolic succession with regard to the development of Protestant theological thought, yet, with very few exceptions, we cannot boast of having made a noteworthy contribution to the world's theological scholarship. Possibly we have not done our duty in this respect. But we can truly say that it has been our honest endeavor to meet the academic requirements of our task in the sense in which Jesus enjoined it upon His disciples when he said to them: Every scribe who has become a disciple of the Kingdom of Heaven is like a householder who produces what is new and what is old from his stores. We have assiduously sought not only to preserve the old values but to make our curriculum so expansive as to include the new values. As a consequence our standards of scholarship have been greatly raised and must continue to rise. Very much more is expected of a student at Eden Seminary today than was required twenty years ago. The improvement of our curriculum has been achieved not only by including more courses increasingly, but also by raising the grade of work demanded of the students.

The final verdict, however, is not determined by the number of courses it comprises, but by the functional power of the curriculum. Our seminary is being constantly judged, and rightly so, by the way in which our graduates approve themselves, or not, in the ministry of the church. It is one thing to make all the facilities of truth-getting available, it is quite another thing to translate truth into life, both on the part of the

teacher and the student. It is not theoretical proficiency, but the pragmatic test that wins in the end. We dare not preach prophecy in the seminary and practice politics in the church.

FACULTY AND STUDENTS

The intrinsic standards of the seminary depend most largely upon the personnel of its teachers and its students.

At Eden Seminary the lives of the students and the teachers are closely knit together. We learn to know each other quite intimately. We attend the same chapel exercises every morning of the workaday week, and worship together as a church family on Wednesday nights. On Sundays both the members of the faculty and a varying number of our students are active in manifold ways in other churches. The increasing use of the discussion method in the classroom results in our learning to know each other's mind. We come to confide in one another and to exert more or less unconsciously a mutual influence upon our lives. Not infrequently we mix in social gatherings of the whole group in the dining hall, or in smaller groups in our individual homes.

We try to cultivate a brisk live contact with the world roundabout us through the Protestant churchmen and through representatives of other agencies of society whom we invite to speak at our convocations and in our mid-week services. Our location in a large city affords splendid opportunities to participate in helpful meetings of national organizations. Besides, we take a more or less active part in the work of the Church Federation, of the Ministerial Alliance and other groups. Yet we often feel very keenly that we are not at all living heroic lives like Jesus and his disciples did. It makes us restive at times and long for a more energetic share in helping to solve the problems of our struggling world. We seek for opportunities of more vicarious living as an integral part of the preparation for a Christlike ministry to our humanity. Thus we are using the offerings of our mid-week services to enable two poor negro students to attend our seminary.

But all that will avail us nothing, if we do not at the same time learn to pay the price of inward holiness. Our generation needs the support of a strong faith, the example of an immaculate righteousness, the social vision of selfless world-builders as much as it needs genuine charity, a sympathetic appreciation of its peculiar difficulties, the feel of stout-hearted bearers of their fellowmen's burdens, the uplifting power of such who have the dynamic of the cross. It is not a whim, therefore, but a real event that we recognized the need of a prayer-chapel. The donation represents the combined gifts of our librarian Rev. Harold Schultz and the present senior class.

ENROLLMENT

On June 7th, 1933, the close of the previous academic year, eleven (11) men, resident students were graduated with the degree of B. D. Three (3) former graduates returned for the Commencement at which they were awarded the B. D.

Among those classified as special students, nine (9) completed their work here and were awarded a certificate.

The total number thus recommended to the President General for ordination was twenty (20).

The present academic year, 1933-34, presents the following enrollment picture:

A.B. Men	Diploma Students	Certificate Students
Seniors 13*	Seniors 2	3rd Year Specials* 10**
Middlers 17†	Middlers 3	2nd Year Specials 7
Juniors 19*	Juniors 1	1st Year Specials 6‡
— 49—6—43	6	— 23 3 —

Total now enrolled and present—76.

20

*Of this group one member each discontinued his studies here.

**Of this group one man will complete his work at the end of the second term.

†Of this group three men are on leave of absence, beginning with the second school term, temporarily supplying churches.

‡Of this group two (2) members discontinued their studies here.

2. *Denominations in Student Body.*

At the present time seven denominations are represented in our student body. Eight students represent the following denominations, Congregational, Episcopalian, A. M. E. Zion, Presbyterian, Southern Methodist, African Methodist Episcopal, Lutheran. Two Negro students on Scholarships made available by the Eden Student body will be enrolled for the Spring Quarter which will add two more denominations, namely, the Missouri Lutheran and the Baptist. We are happy to be joining more and more in this interdenominational fellowship.

3. *Co-Education.*

During the year four women students have been enrolled. The registration for the fall quarter included three women students and during the winter quarter there is one full time co-ed.

4. *Advanced Degrees.*

Three students at present are doing graduate work for the S.T.M. degree.

5. *Faculty.*

During the present school year Prof. Elmer Arndt is continuing his studies at Yale University and Prof. Halfter has been secured to teach his courses.

Dr. Robert Kevin rendered our school a fine service through his course in English Bible during the Fall Quarter of our school year.

6. *Curriculum.*

Last year's report contained records of a series of meetings where a larger group, including the secretaries of the various Boards, has been engaged in rethinking the Seminary curriculum in the light of modern day needs in the ministry. Some progress can be reported along this line. A committee has proposed several possible re-organizations of the curriculum and during the next three months a series of special Faculty meetings will deal directly with this important problem. The present plan is to have a revised curriculum "set-up" for the publication of a new catalog this spring. The seminary has ordered for its library, and the committee is anxiously awaiting the appearance of the five volume study on Theological Education in America as guidance data for its further work.

7. *Field Work.*

One very definite step has been taken with regard to a program of Field Work for our students along with and as an integral part of their

academic preparation. The Junior class this year under the leadership of Dr. Lewis of the County Y. M. C. A. are leaders of Boys' Clubs throughout the county. Through a Practicum meeting once a week and individual conferences with Mr. Lewis these students are guided in making this experience one through which they grow. This work is carried on in an experimental mood and at present a committee of the faculty is working with Mr. Lewis to evaluate the work so far carried on.

8. *Theological Magazine*

Carrying out the action of the General Conference in regard to the Seminary Faculty being responsible for the publication of the Theological Magazine a committee has been appointed by the president which is at the present time making plans and is in correspondence with members of the Dayton Seminary Faculty regarding same.

EXTENSION LECTURES FOR MINISTERS

As in previous years the Seminary is sponsoring a series of lectures for St. Louis and vicinity during the winter term (January 10th to February 26). The following courses are being offered:

The Prophetic Consciousness and the Kingdom of God — Rev. Robert Kevin, Ph.D.

Modern Currents in Oriental Religions — Prof. Th. W. Menzel.

The Minister as Religious Educator — Prof. H. A. Pflug.

The enrollment has been less than the two previous years, numbering only 13 this year, with six Evangelicals and seven representing four other denominations. In the light of the smaller representation plans are being projected for a possible Convocation with some outstanding speaker for the next year. We are firmly convinced that the Seminary has a mission and can render a service to the clergy of St. Louis and the surrounding territory through such convocations or extension lectures.

S. D. Press, President.

Total expenditures of institution, exclusive of debt reduction, \$69,149.36.

Report of the Board of Trustees of Elmhurst College

February 1, 1933, to January 31, 1934

Former annual reports have been justifiably prefaced with references to difficulties arising from adverse economic conditions. A comparison of reports, particularly of receipts, will readily disclose the fact that such difficulties have not only remained but have actually been augmented both in number and in magnitude. Despite an unavoidable shrinkage in the regular income, the Board of Trustees of Elmhurst College begs to submit for your approval the following encouraging facts:

The largest enrollment in the history of the college.

Efficiency and standards of the institution remain unimpaired.

Continued loyalty of faculty and others despite salary reductions.

A systematic and successful follow-up work in the wake of the Elmhurst-Eden Advance Campaign.

Marked progress in coeducation including new dormitory facilities for young women.

A rapid increase in the number of students secured from the Elmhurst community and the suburban area, due to special effort of the President and the faculty to integrate the institution into the life of the community.

These matters in addition to all others of importance will be dealt with in detail in the following reports herewith submitted.

The Board of Trustees of Elmhurst College,

John L. Ernst, Chairman.

Report of the President of Elmhurst College

At the General Conference in Cincinnati (1933) the following objectives of Elmhurst College were heartily approved.

- a—Accreditation as a 4-year standard college;
- b—building up curriculum to serve adequately as center of liberal arts culture within a Christian environment and with the objective of Christian character;
- c—Increase of enrolment to utilize equipment to enable economical operation, to supply an adequate number of candidates for the seminary and to furnish consecrated lay leadership for church and community.

On accreditation there remains but this to say at the present, that a special survey has once again been made by a commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, whose report will be presented at the annual meeting of this Association in April for approval or rejection.

The building up of the curriculum is closely identified with the staff of this school regarding whom we feel free to say, that with but few exceptions our students are brought into contact with personalities who have a decided influence upon them, largely for good and increasingly intent upon improving this relationship and its implications.

THE FACULTY

On leave is our esteemed professor of chemistry, Dr. H. H. Helmick, whose place is temporarily taken by Dr. R. J. Priecke. Other new members of the staff are W. P. Carter in Sociology, P. L. Lehmann in religion and O. M. Langhorst as coach.

We have had the finest cooperation on the part of all and desire thus publicly to acknowledge the excellent spirit manifested by our colleagues at all times.

We have in mind a faculty that shall measure up to the highest standards academically and personally. The Christian implications are ever paramount.

So far as the enrolment is concerned, we beg leave to suggest emphatically that we need a field representative in order to hold our own. Last summer's experience clearly demonstrated this. Unless we are willing to follow the dictates of our better judgment we shall have to be content to see our enrolment diminish. This would be most unfortunate at this particular time.

Likewise it must be brought to the attention of our constituency that the enrolment of Evangelical students has not increased in the same proportion as our student body, although this year we have 3% more Evangelical students than last year. More of our own young men and women ought to attend this school, from which have gone forth in recent years most acceptable graduates. They have shown the worth of their undergraduate preparation in graduate school and in actual work. I repeat, no one need regret sending us students. The quality of our work bears inspection.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Three times have we been called upon to use the Evangelical Hospital in Chicago and each time their excellent cooperation was evident. Once we sent a student to the Elmhurst Hospital, where we also received satisfactory attention. Not only the students who have recovered entirely, but also the administration is deeply grateful for the attitude and charitable inclinations of our friends. Aside from these cases the state of health among us was good, for which we are thankful indeed.

Quietly the months slipped around. Were it not for this, we might

often become discouraged, since there are sufficient problems apart from any disciplinary procedures. We are fully aware of the exuberance of youth and often realize just how difficult it is for youth to adjust itself to the rather set ideas of adults. Therefore we are more than happy to testify that our students present a rather normal cross-section of life which clearly indicates we are dealing with a wholesome group of individuals. Many of them might do much better work, but on the whole there is a seriousness in evidence that compensates for other difficulties. On this account I firmly believe in youth and pray our elders to seek more earnestly to understand their juniors and to be more patient in their reaction to the process of growth and fermentation. This applies to their personal, social and religious life. At times we may even learn from them. Nothing is quite so disappointing to me as apathy and thoughtlessness regarding the great issues of life. Even here youth must learn to face reality early—and we may well ponder the indifference of our younger generation.

FINANCIAL

More than 100 students at Elmhurst benefit by our scholarship offerings, thus reducing our actual income quite considerably. Others are finding it difficult to pay promptly, which again greatly inconveniences the administration. Reference is made to this to enable our friends to understand the difficulty we are having to balance our budget.

During 1932 our Synod appropriated and paid us \$71,850. During 1933 we received only \$59,590. What shall it be in 1934? The whole synodical life is affected. Our perspective is blurred by the immediate difficulties. Shall we declare ourselves incapable of meeting the situation or shall we rise to accept the challenge by so modifying our mode of living and so adjusting our program that nothing essential shall be overlooked and nothing important shall be left undone?

Our educational outlook is dark indeed. Perhaps we need to learn at last, that higher education has values aside from any material guarantees. And surely the Christian point of view would dictate that we do not withdraw our hands. Cutting the cloth to fit conditions is one thing, and rising to recognize an undeniable responsibility is another. Alone an acceptance of both will answer in these trying days, when above all else, we should not look for alibis, but for ways and means to take care of obligations that cannot indefinitely be postponed. I am here thinking especially of the immediate responsibility of teaching and learning how to live Christlike in this world of confusion. These challenging circumstances call for increased devotion and sacrifice. Let us take heed lest we lose our spiritual birthright. This involves personal consecration, a Christian home, an extended program of Christian education, including college. We cannot expect our sons and daughters to be better prepared for life than we have been, unless we offer them in a college the possibility of learning how to interpret and face the tremendous issues of life from a Christian point of view and with utter childlike dependence upon God, who made Himself known through Jesus Christ. Therefore we dare not do less in our education program—rather ought we to expand and intensify the same.

ADDITIONS

From the report of our Dean and Registrar, Th. W. Mueller, we submit figures on enrolment:

Comparison of Enrolment 1933-34 and 1932-33:

School year 1933-34	Total number	Full time	Part time	Total
1—As of Oct. 16, 1933	237*	231	6	233½
2—As of Jan. 31, 1934	230*			
3—As of Feb. 6, 1934	226*	217	10	223

*Includes nine students registered on combined plan.

School year 1932-33

1—As of Oct. 15, 1933	222*	217	5	219 2/3
2—As of Jan. 31, 1933	216*			
3—As of Feb. 8, 1933	214*	205	9	210 1/2

*Includes six students registered on combined plan.

We opened the school year with a registration of 237 (this figure includes nine seniors who are registered for the combined course). Of the 237 students 231 were full time and 6 were part time students who were enrolled for less than 12 hours of work. On the basis of full time we had an enrolment of 233½ students.

Compared with the enrolment of 1932-33 our total enrolment this year showed an increase of seven percent. Although the percentage of increase is small it is, nevertheless, very significant when the enrolment of many older, and larger institutions showed a decrease. Of the 237 students enrolled on October 15 65 were women and 172 men. This is an increase of 32% in the enrolment of women students. In fact the increase of 7% in our total enrolment is due to the increase in women students. And this increase of women students is in great part due to the fact that we this year have a girls' dormitory. The enrolment of men dropped from 173 of last year to 172 this year.

Distribution of students on the basis of classes:

	Women	Men	Total
Senior—In residence	3	21	24
At Eden Seminary		9	9
Juniors	9	33	42
Sophomores	13	39	52
Freshmen	37	66	103
Part Time	3	3	6
Special		1	1
 Total	65	172	237

Distribution on the basis of proposed vocations:

Pre-theological	85	Nursing	2
Teaching	32	Music	2
Business	31	Laboratory Technician	1
Medicine	9	Religious Education	1
Engineering	7	Commercial Artist	1
Law	7	Dentistry	1
Librarian	5	Social Service	1
Chemist	5	Geologist	1
Journalism	4	Undecided	40
Pharmacy	2		237

Number of Pre-theological Students in successive years:

	Freshmen		Upperclass.		Part Time		Special		All Classes	
	Total	Pre-The.	Total	Pre-The.	Total	Pre-The.	Total	Pre-The.	Total	
1924-25	54	32	33	28				87	60	
1925-26	79	55	36	29				115	84	
1926-27	68	46	72	54				140	100	
1927-28	55	44	80	59*				135	103*	
1928-29	56	29	93	79*				159	108*	
1929-30	63	22	87	53*				150	75*	
1930-31	116	24	117	47*				233	71*	
1931-31	87	23	136	62*				223	85*	
1932-33	82	24	140	62*				222	86*	
1933-34	103	20	127	63*	6	1	1	237	85*	

*Includes students registered on combined plan.

An interesting item in these figures is the sudden rise in pre-theological students during the period of inflated prosperity from 84 in 1925-26 to 108 in 1928-29, then the sudden drop from 108 to 75 in 1929-30, the rise to 85 in 1930-31 and the relative stability during the past three years.

Analysis of enrolment for the last five years based on area from which students come:

	1933-34	1932-33	1931-32	1930-31	1929-30
Total Enrolment	237	221	229	152	153
1—States	112	120	126	126	118
2—Local					
a—Elmhurst	50	50	37	37	14
b—Suburban area	74	50	52	64	19
(8) Chicago					
3—Foreign Countries	1	2	1	3	1

Distribution by states:

Illinois	156	District of Columbia	2
Missouri	14	Louisiana	2
New York	10	Maryland	2
Ohio	8	Minnesota	2
Indiana	7	Colorado	1
Michigan	7	Kentucky	1
Pennsylvania	6	North Dakota	1
Texas	6	Mexico	1
Wisconsin	6		
Iowa	5		
			237

I presented the Analysis of Enrolment last year. In bringing the same up to date for my own files I found two items which seems to me to warrant the inclusion of this data again.

First, as you will note, the school year 1933-34 marks another decided upward trend in the number of students drawn from Chicago and the suburban area with an increase of 49%. We have, I am confident, only begun to tap the potential supply of college students from this area.

The number of students in our present student body coming from Elmhurst has remained the same. Twenty-four, or about 12% of the students who were graduated from York Community High School (Elmhurst) in June registered with us last fall.

Second, it will be noted that there was a decrease of 6% in the number of students coming "from greater distances." This group in general represents the Evangelical Synod at large. It is an interesting fact, however, that although the number of students coming "from greater distances" decreased 6% the number of Evangelical students in our student group increased by 3%.

From the report of our Dean of Women, Miss G. Staudt, we cull a paragraph on the plan of housing:

A picture of our present women student population may be best secured through a brief glance at the figures of the years since girls have been admitted: 1930-31, 44 women; 1931-32, 41 women; 1932-33, 49 women; 1933-34, 65 women. This increase of 32% this year is undoubtedly due to the conversion of Irion Hall into a girls' dormitory. The first year girls were admitted to Elmhurst College provision for their living was made among private homes. Two years ago a make-shift dormitory was arranged in the Commons taking care of five girls. Last year 6 girls were housed in the Commons and 2 outside. In the remodeling of Irion Hall accommodations for 23 were provided and 19 students are living there. This becomes more significant when reviewed in the light of our total

enrolment of women students of the last two years. These figures reveal a growth of 16, from 49 last year to 65. Out of town students increased from 8 last year to 19. In other words at least 11 of the 16 additional women students came to Elmhurst because of dormitory facilities. Considering inquiries and comments it would not seem unwarrantedly optimistic to believe that the number of women from the areas not immediately surrounding Elmhurst could in a few years be made comparable with the number of men and probably to some financial advantage.

Our Librarian, Miss E. Stech, speaks of increases and improvements in utilizing the splendid facilities of our library. We now have 25,737 books and periodicals.

Books withdrawn for home use 7,408; last year 6,373 were in circulation. Attendance in library 30,526, last year 30,442.

CONCLUSION

We beg leave to express our sincere appreciation to the faculty and the whole staff of employees all of whom have cooperated to the fullest under difficult circumstances.

Particularly do we feel indebted to our retiring board members, the former chairman, Rev. H. W. Dinkmeyer, Dr. Paul Klopsteg and Rev. R. Kofer. These men have given unstintingly of their ability and advice. The progress of the institution clearly indicates it.

We also welcome as colaborgers the Board of Trustees and its officers, as now constituted:

Rev. John L. Ernst, Ph.D., Chairman
Rev. J. P. Meyer, Vice-Chairman
Rev. Erwin R. Koch, Secretary
Mr. W. L. Woldhausen, Comptroller
Rev. F. Frankenfeld, LL.D.
Mr. Paul Jans
Rev. Julius Kircher, D.D.
Rev. F. H. Klemme
Rev. Wm. F. Mehl
Rev. H. Niefer, D.D.
Mrs. Jacob Pister
Mr. F. W. Rasche
Rev. F. J. Rolf
Mr. Henry C. Schumacher

A. G. Ruthven, President of the University of Michigan, says: "Education can only be considered well-rounded when it has taught the student in his thinking to go beyond analysis, beyond memorizing, beyond conventions, beyond material considerations, beyond particular disciplines, to synthesis, to creative thinking, to an appreciation of human value."

It is not for the church college merely to accept these objectives of a state school, but to go into the field of experimentation boldly by way of applying and practicing Christian principles of life, even while at college. Thus it can make a vital contribution to the educational and religious program as outlined by far seeing leaders.

Prayerfully and courageously we seek to share in this privilege at Elmhurst College. Toward this end we humbly solicit your further and constant cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

T. Lehmann, President.

Elmhurst, Ill.

February 13, 1934.

Total expenditures, \$144,247.46.

BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

It is with mingled feelings of praise and humility that we render our report for the brief period of time that has elapsed since the General Conference. Praise is due the Lord of the Church that he has maintained within our group sufficient devotion to continue such Home Mission work as we have been carrying on in recent years. Thinking of the vast need and the opportunities for service that confront us, we must, however, confess that we are not as useful in the Master's Kingdom plan as we ought to be.

Much credit is due the retiring members of the Board for their valuable and ever willing service during most trying times. They are: Rev. O. W. Heggemeier, who has been a member of the Board since 1922; Rev. Paul Stoerker, since 1928; and Rev. A. W. Fruechte, since 1928. Re-elected members are: Rev. G. A. Schmidt, Rev. F. R. Daries, Rev. Chas. Enders, Mrs. Mae Friday Ashbrook. Newly elected members: Rev. Detlev Baltzer, Rev. H. H. Lohans. Members nominated by the Board and appointed by the General Council: Rev. J. H. Buescher, Mr. W. D. Bobbin and Mr. Wm. H. Brown. The two last named laymen have been members of the Board since 1928.

At its annual meeting, December 12 and 13, the Board elected Rev. G. A. Schmidt, Chairman; Rev. F. R. Daries, Vice-chairman; Rev. H. H. Lohans, Treasurer; Rev. Chas. Enders, Secretary. Rev. J. J. Braun was again nominated as Executive Secretary and later appointed by the General Council. In this meeting both the old and the new members labored together in studying the work, determining policies and appropriations for the new year.

THE ANNIVERSARY

There has been a wide-spread and hearty response to the plans of the two Mission Boards for the joint observance of their anniversaries, the 50th of Foreign Missions and the 75th of Home Missions. Especially prepared material such as the book of missionary readings and devotions called "Missionary Horizons," also new programs for use in church services, in Sunday school and in societies, plays and pageants and pamphlets have all found unusually ready sales. Other material is being prepared for October, when according to the plan during the Home Missions Emphasis month, both anniversaries shall again be observed, this time under the lead of Home Missions. We want to commend in particular the forthcoming anniversary book of about eighty pages, in which both Boards will participate. It will be ready some time during the summer. We ask the pastors and churches to turn the missionary festivals to good account this fall especially in the way of giving fuller information about our own home missions and also the Reformed work. The office is at all times ready to suggest suitable books, and even to furnish suitable reading material out of the office library. It should not be out of place to call attention here to the volume "Home Missions Today and Tomorrow," published by the Home Missions Council, in which the results of a five-year survey and a one-year study of American Home Missions are presented.

No anniversary offering has been asked for, but churches and church organizations on all sides have very graciously decided that a good birthday gift would not be amiss. For this the Board is very grateful. This at least should be said, that in a year when missions are so strongly emphasized, the awakened interest should be intelligently led into the normal channels of Synodical budget giving.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL AND FIELDS

W. H. Aufderhaar of St. John, Cullman, Ala., to Community Ev., San Antonio, Texas.

Miss Anna Astroth, Director of Religious Education and Recreation at Biloxi, Back Bay.
H. M. Awiszus, left Longmont, Colo.
Aug. Binder of St. Paul, Seattle, to add Broadview to his parish.
Geo. P. Ellerbrake from Zion, Long Beach, Calif., to Peace, Harvey, Ill.
Martin Haack, from La Pointe, Wis., to Glencoe, Minn.
Lloyd Hegemann, 1933 Eden graduate, to St. Paul, Toledo, Ohio.
Geo. Hildebrand, left Lincoln, Iowa.
Ed. Horstmann resigned at Broadview Ev., Seattle, Wash.
A. Jahnke of Batesland, S. D., retired.
H. F. W. Jesdinsky from St. Paul, Lingle, Wyo., to Friedens, Nisland, S.D.
Robt. Kienle resigned from St. John's, St. Paul, Minn., and St. Paul's, Stillwater, Minn.
Paul Kniker from Friedens, San Antonio, to Ev. Luth. at Orange Grove and Friedens, Tynan, Texas.
Andrew Mast resigned at Zion, Detroit, Mich.
Walter Press to add St. John, Montrose, to his parish of Grand Junction, Colo.
Paul Reichert to Walla Walla, Wash.
Franklin W. Schaeffer of United Ev., Baltimore, to Friedens, San Antonio, Texas.
Theo. E. Schulz of Shelbyville, Ind., to Zion, Long Beach, Calif.
Wm. Schumann from Montrose, Colo., to Friedens, Denver, Colo.
Ernst Stelzig from Nisland, S. D., to Batesland, S. D.
G. Tillmanns resigned at St. Matthew, San Rafael, Calif.
Leonard Todd, 1933 Eden graduate, to Fieldon and Jerseyville, Ill.
Paul R. Stock resigned at Bethel, New Orleans, La.

VACANCIES

While there are five vacancies at the time of this writing, it is reasonably certain that before the Districts take action on this report some of these will be filled. May we, however, call each Conference to pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into His harvest. Heroic, well-equipped men are needed, especially in the interesting field of Madeline Island. Sufficient enlistments from the ranks of our ministers can only then be expected if our whole church continues to be prayerfully and sincerely zealous in missionary work.

STATISTICS

The early records of 1934 show that the Home Mission Board is aiding 119 fields with 100 workers. In addition to this number, we are supporting the work in the Back Bay of Biloxi with two women workers. The pastor of the Mission Church in Biloxi, Rev. Fred Mehrten, has charge of the Back Bay work. We are also maintaining the work in the Missouri Ozarks where the pastor of Manchester, Mo., Rev. Paul Wobus, is Director, giving a great deal of his time to actual work in the field, and where Rev. Zenos Yount is preaching at ten points. Our mission churches report a total of 11,144 members, and an enrollment in Sunday school of 12,024. For 1934, mission churches have agreed to pay \$67,019 toward the salary of their pastors, and the Board has undertaken to contribute \$85,437.00 toward these salaries.

PROGRESS

The depression has not checked the growth of the work entirely. The situation in the Ozarks called imperatively for the appointment of another full-time worker. After thorough study, including a trip to the field on the part of the chairman, Rev. G. A. Schmidt, the Board called Rev. Vincent Bucher to this work. He will take up his residence in the

field at the earliest possible time, which will probably be some time during the summer. The need for medical and nursing service is especially great farther away from the established communities. Having now proclaimed to these people our belief in the Gospel of love, we cannot much longer escape the implication of sharing with them some form of medical and nursing service. Plans are under way.

The Board was providentially led to the appointment of Miss Anna Astroth as Director of Religious Education and Recreation in the Back Bay of Biloxi. This will make it possible for Mrs. McDonnell to give her time and strength more exclusively to her beloved work as Director of Health and Relief Activities. Rev. Fred J. Mehrtens remains pastor in charge of the mission.

The long delay in establishing the Maternity Clinic in the Back Bay, erecting the greatly needed parsonage on Madeline Island, and of new opportunities for service here and there rests like a heavy burden on the work.

THANK-OFFERING — WOMEN'S UNION

The Women's Union contributed substantially to the work of Home Missions through their Thank-offering. Nearly four thousand dollars were contributed toward the erection of a parsonage on Madeline Island. Rather than fail to pay workers' salaries, the Board borrowed this amount, hoping in a few years through a normal budget allowance from the Synod to be able to repay. Money contributed for the Maternity Hospital and the general Back Bay building program had to be used in the same way. It is hoped that both projects can be carried out this year.

The Women's Union decided that the Thank-offering for 1934 should be used for a full-time worker in the Ozarks. The worker has already been called and the money will be used for this purpose. In extending herewith our thanks for the noble efforts of the women, may we call upon the Districts to encourage in every way the excellent program of work in which the Women's Union is engaged.

THE MERGER

Your Board is endeavoring to do its full part in preparing for a proper consummation of the merger with the Reformed Church. In addition to its own studies of the possibilities of a better home mission service through a merged church, the Board has invited the Board for Home Missions of the Reformed Church to instruct its executive Committee to meet with our Executive Committee for a closer study of these matters. This meeting will take place on June 26th in Cleveland.

It seems to be the consensus of opinion in both Boards, that after the General Conference of June 26th, even though Boards may be ordered to consider themselves one merged Board, each Board must continue to direct its own work as before, and that an actual merger of the work can take place only gradually. This alone will give each Board an opportunity to pay off its own debts and to become thoroughly acquainted with the work of the other Board.

Total Expenditures, \$95,641.81.

REPORT OF THE CHURCH EXTENSION FUND BOARD

By virtue of the election at the last General Conference the personnel of the above-named board is new, excepting Mr. E. H. Klick; consequently we must first find ourselves in this extensive work, therefore this report will be very brief.

We had our first meeting Feb. 5, 1934, all members were present. Dr. C. W. Locher, Rev. J. J. Braun, and Rev. Theo. Braun, the past president,

were also present. The members of the board proceeded to organize as follows:

Oscar C. Grueninger, President
Rev. E. J. Westerbeck, Vice-president
Rev. Theo. Schumacher, Secretary
E. H. Klick, Treasurer.

A vote of thanks was extended to Rev. Theo. Braun for the twenty years of faithful service rendered on the past boards.

Since Mr. F. P. Bauer of Alton, Ill., was forced to resign on account of ill health, Mr. Henry Kronsbein of St. Louis, Mo., was elected in his place, the General Council approved of the election.

Mr. John W. Mueller has again consented to serve as counselor, his services as legal adviser will prove to be of great help to us. Rev. J. J. Braun, executive secretary of the Home Mission Board, will also meet with this board as our work is intimately tied up with the other board.

The future meeting dates were set for the third Tuesday of each month at 9 A. M. in the Synod Building.

It was with regret that we learned that our budget allowance was cut from \$1,200.00 to \$600.00. This cut will only reflect on future loans to be made.

During the short time we have functioned so far we find that there are numerous appeals for financial help as many churches are in danger of losing their properties through foreclosure, etc., we try to help wherever possible but it is our understanding that this board must help mission churches first.

The treasurer reports as follows: 167 loans outstanding, only 33% are paid up to date, balance as follows in arrears: 1 year 15%, 2 years 10%, 3 years 13%, 4 years 4%, 5 years 7%, 6 years 4%, 7 years 1%, 8 years 2%, 9 years 1%, 10 years 3%, over ten years 7%.

Something must be done about these delinquent loans, so your board must resort to use stronger methods, as we feel that some of the churches do not realize just how important it is to pay to date. Only by keeping the money in circulation can this board function properly.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

The Board of Foreign Missions begs to submit this report of its activities for the year 1933.

The dominant note in the report of the Board of Foreign Missions is that of thankfulness to God, and a desire to make the anniversary years 1933-34 "Eben-Ezer" memorials by acknowledging joyfully, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." Fifty years have elapsed since the General Conference in session at St. Peter's Evangelical Church in St. Louis, in the fall of 1883, resolved to take over the existing work of the German Evangelical Missionary Society of New York in India. It accepted this responsibility because it felt itself divinely led and firmly believed that "God wills it." On May 19, 1934, the fiftieth anniversary of the consummation of this plan will have come. Mindful of all that God has done, the Synod is preparing to make this an occasion of joyful observances.

There have at times been setbacks and disappointments as well as doubts and fears which have sorely tested the faith of the Synod, but through all of these God graciously kept alive the love for His great missionary cause and often inspired the church to real sacrificial service. He has graciously blessed the efforts of His servants at home and abroad so that not in pride but with deep gratitude we may, in the following pages of this report, recount progress in many fields of our foreign missionary activity. The present condition of our foreign missionary work is there-

fore not above all a monument to the faithfulness of the Evangelical Synod, but a memorial to the goodness and faithfulness of God.

For purposes of clarity this report will successively take up the questions of the Home Base, the Indian Field, and Honduras.

I. The Home Base

THE BOARD

Membership. The Board which carried on the work during the year 1933 was composed of the following members:

Rev. T. R. Schmale, Chairman; Rev. Ernst Schmidt, Vice-Chairman; Rev. August C. Rasche, Rec. Sec.; Mr. Paul Schulz, Treasurer; Rev. J. Otto Reller; Rev. G. Siegenthaler; Mr. Henry Albrecht; Mrs. Ida Pauley; Mrs. J. Pister; Executive Secretary, Rev. P. A. Menzel, D.D.; Associate Executive Secretary, Rev. F. A. Goetsch.

Meetings. The whole Board met twice during the course of the year, the first meeting being held at Ann Arbor, Michigan on May 29 and 30, and the second in Cincinnati, Ohio, on October 30 and 31. In the interim a number of Executive Committee meetings were held to take care of the more urgent matters requiring attention.

The New Board. The General Conference held in Cincinnati on October 3-10, 1933 elected the following members to serve as the Board of Foreign Missions during the coming quadrennium:

Rev. T. R. Schmale, Rev. A. C. Rasche, Mr. Paul H. Schulz, Rev. T. H. Twente, Rev. G. Siegenthaler, Rev. J. O. Reller, Mrs. Ida Pauley.

As provided in the constitution, the elected members of the new Board elected two additional members. Rev. E. Schmidt and Mrs. A. J. Ehlers were chosen. The officers of the new Board are:

Rev. T. R. Schmale, Chairman; Rev. E. Schmidt, Vice-chairman; Rev. A. C. Rasche, Recording Secretary; Mr. Paul H. Schulz, Treasurer; Exec. Sec., Rev. P. A. Menzel, D.D.; Assoc. Exec. Sec., Rev. F. A. Goetsch.

PROMOTION

The promotional work of the Foreign Board was really Synod-wide, since every District of the Synod participated in the invitations to the Board or its missionaries to serve it either in person or through mission literature and stereopticon slide sets. The furloughed missionaries, Rev. T. C. Seybold, Rev. E. Menzel, Miss Hedwig Schaeffer, Miss M. A. Wobus, Miss Bertha Scheidt, Miss Minnie Gadt, Miss Anna Schichi and Miss Elise Kettler participated whole-heartedly and sacrificially in all of the promotional activities of the Board.

District Tours. As in other years a number of Districts were made the special charge of the Board of Foreign Missions for the carrying on of District-wide promotional work. The Iowa District was toured during the months of August and September, and though not every church could be contacted, yet as many as could be taken care of within the period of four weeks were visited by Missionary T. C. Seybold. The Districts of California and the Pacific Northwest were visited during the month of January, 1934, in a tour which was prepared by the officers of the District and included practically every church in these two Districts. The Texas District, although not assigned to the Board of Foreign Missions for the year, was visited by special request by Miss Hedwig Schaeffer in a tour which included one or more presentations of the cause in eighteen congregations. A part of the Indiana District was toured by Miss Wobus by special request of the rural churches round about Evansville in a most successful manner.

District and Regional Conferences. Seven District Conferences were

visited and participated in by the Associate Executive Secretary and furloughed missionaries. They included the Atlantic, Pennsylvania, Missouri, South Illinois, Indiana, Iowa and New York Districts. Nine Regional Conferences in Missouri, Michigan and Wisconsin extended invitations to a representative of the Foreign Board to present the cause of missions at their Conferences. These meetings became sources of inspiration not only to the members of the Regions visited but, due to the personal contacts established everywhere, to the missionary and board secretary as well.

Missionary Anniversary Promotion. Plans for observing the fiftieth anniversary of the foreign missionary work in India and Honduras were made together with the Board of Home Missions which contemplated observing the 75th anniversary of its own work. The months of February and October of 1934 were set aside for the observance of both anniversaries. A devotional booklet was prepared under the title of "Missionary Horizons" which contains a daily devotion and missionary reading for a whole month. In this booklet the work of foreign missions and home missions was equally emphasized and reenforced by new and telling illustrations. By February 1, about twenty-two thousand "Missionary Horizons" had been sold with orders still coming in from single copies to hundreds of copies for distribution among the entire adult membership of the church. Special worship programs have been prepared for use in the church and Sunday school services. Programs for the organizations in the church were also made available in order that the church and all of its organizations might have at their disposal suitable material to observe these unique anniversaries of missionary activities. The Board of Foreign Missions would acknowledge gratefully the co-operation of the various other Synodical Boards, editors and individuals, who have prepared programs and written articles and generally promoted the observance of the missionary anniversary.

FINANCE

During the early months of the year the finances of the Board were greatly aided by the favorable exchange rate of the dollar in India and by the fact that due to the same reason a respectable balance had accumulated in India during the previous year which could be made available for budget needs. For this reason the Board could accept a larger proportionate reduction of its share in the budget funds of the Synod than would otherwise have fallen to its lot, when the shortage of funds made a general reduction of all budgets necessary.

The financial picture changed somewhat as the year progressed. The favorable exchange rate of the dollar changed to an unfavorable one and instead of receiving Rs. 385½ per \$100.00 as in the earlier months of the year, the rate in the closing months of the year, dropped to Rs. 255 for the same sum of American dollars. There is no reason to expect that under the present conditions of currency stabilization the value of the dollar as compared with the rupee will rise, and the church will therefore need to face the fact that in the year 1934 it will require more American dollars to supply the India field with the required amount in rupees than was the case in the year just closed. Furthermore, larger repairs are becoming very urgent in view of the fact that they have been deferred from year to year ever since the financial depression made its effects felt in the budget income of the Synod. Such repairs cannot be indefinitely postponed without danger to the health of our missionaries and the permanency of the buildings involved. Climatic conditions and particularly the tremendous rainfall concentrated within a few months of the year play havoc with buildings where repairs were neglected. Eventually therefore, such larger items of repair will need to be budgeted for

by our missionaries in order to safeguard the valuable property of our mission in both fields.

Designations. The Board desires gratefully to acknowledge the help which it has received through special designations from individuals, church organizations and congregations as such. The sum of such designations, amounting to \$27,046.45, is about the same as last year in spite of the fact that we have passed through what is perhaps the worst financial crisis in the history of the country.

The Women's Union Project. As in other years the Evangelical Women's Union has participated in the work of the Board through its support of a special project which this time is in the Honduras field. This project which was a continuation of the 1932 project, had as its objective the raising of sufficient funds to establish a new mission station in the interior of Honduras. The reason for desiring to spread its force of missionaries and national workers over a larger area have been often enumerated and have appealed to all earnest students of missionary policy. The thank-offering gifts of the Women's Union in the years 1932 and 1933 have made it possible to establish a new station in the town of Yoro about seventy miles southeast of San Pedro Sula. The establishment of this new mission station coincides with the writing of this report and the work there will undoubtedly figure very prominently in the reports of the Board of Foreign Missions in the future. The Board desires to thank the officers and members of the Women's Union for their hearty and effective support of this most promising special project.

Katherine Goetsch Memorial. The Board has been deeply touched by the inauguration of a movement to establish a memorial to one of our consecrated workers, Mrs. Katherine Goetsch, who departed this life in 1931. The spontaneous response to the appeal sent out by the Women's Union has exceeded by far the hopes and expectations of its sponsors. As the year closes the sum of \$10,191.76 has been received by the Board of Foreign Missions through the treasurer of the Women's Union for the establishment of this memorial. The new station at Chandrapur has been designated as the memorial station. The missionary bungalow has been completed sometime ago and building operations are proceeding with the erection of a dispensary and a school. The Chandrapur mission station, when completed, will not only be a memorial to a consecrated missionary worker but a memorial as well to the love which Evangelical Women have for the cause of Christ. The Board desires to thank all who had a share in this memorial enterprise.

EVANGELICAL SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL MISSIONS

This auxiliary of the Board has completed another year of successful activity. It has issued a comprehensive report of its activities which can be supplied through the office of the Society, at 2117 Belair Road, Baltimore, Maryland, or from the offices of the Board of Foreign Missions. The President of the Society, the Rev. E. T. Mueller, M.D., enumerates some of the accomplishments of this Society and the projects before it in his annual report, from which the following item is taken:

"Let me point out to you some of the more immediate projects of our society: 1. To equip Tilda with the much needed electric generator and X-Ray plant; 2. The sending out of a third physician in order that the work might not suffer when Dr. Whitcomb or Dr. Gass would return for their furlough; 3. Equipment of Chandkuri with electric light and X-Ray. The need of a hospital in Honduras is more and more felt, so that the much needed native Christian nurses could be trained. Will you not help us in accomplishing this?"

The officers of the Society are as follows:

E. Th. Mueller, M.D., President; Paul Sandresky, M.D., Vice-President; Rev. G. Siegenthaler, Secretary; A. H. Noehren, M.D., Treasurer; Milton C. Lang, M.D., Financial Secretary; Mrs. M. C. Lang, Field Secretary.

II. The India Field

OUR MISSIONARIES

At the close of 1933 our missionaries and Indian pastors were stationed in the following manner:

Bisrampur: Pastor J. C. Koenig, Mrs. Koenig, Pastor Johan Purti.

Raipur: Pastor J. Gass, D.D., Mrs. Gass, Pastor Wm. Baur, Mrs. Baur, Miss Lydia Kies, Miss Hedwig Schaeffer, and Pastor N. N. Shah.

Baitalpur Chandkuri: Pastor J. H. Schultz, Mrs. Schultz, Dr. H. H. Gass, Mrs. Gass, Miss M. Magdalene Kroehler, and Pastor M. P. Gottlieb.

Parsabhadar: Pastor M. P. Davis, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Helen Enslin-Suger, and Miss Dorothea Riechers.

Mahasamund: Pastor H. A. Feierabend, Mrs. Feierabend.

Substation Pithora: Pastor M. M. Paul.

Chandrapur: Pastor M. P. Albrecht, Mrs. Albrecht.

Substation Charpali: Pastor Y. Prakash.

Khariar: Pastor A. F. Meyer, Mrs. Meyer.

Tilda: Dr. E. W. Whitcomb, Mrs. Whitecomb, and Sister Alma Jungermann.

On Furlough: Pastor T. C. Seybold, Pastor E. Menzel, Mrs. Menzel, Miss M. A. Wobus, Sister Minnie Gadt, and Miss Anna Schichi.

During the course of the year a number of our missionaries have suffered serious illness which in two cases has made necessary their return to the homeland. Mrs. P. H. Konrad had been seriously ill for some time, but resisted the advice of the physicians to return to America until her condition became so serious that no other course remained. As a consequence Pastor and Mrs. P. H. Konrad and their two children left India in the early part of the year, and after a stay of some months at the Tropengenesungsheim in Tuebingen, Germany, for treatment, returned home on September 15. In the more suitable climate of the homeland Mrs. Konrad has greatly improved in health. A vacancy occurred in the church at Elkhart, Indiana, and Pastor Konrad was elected to the pastorate and accepted charge on January 1, 1934.

In the closing weeks of 1933 a cablegram reached the Board stating that Miss Lydia Kies must return home at once for a major operation. Greatly concerned over the apparently serious state of Miss Lydia Kies' health the Board cabled permission and funds for her return to the U.S.A.

A number of joyous events occurred in the homes of our missionaries abroad and in the homeland. A very unique celebration could take place in Raipur on the occasion of Dr. Gass' 40th anniversary of his arrival in India as a missionary of our Lord. The missionaries from all of the other stations gathered about Dr. and Mrs. Gass to rejoice with them on having completed so many years of outstanding service in the Indian field. Many were the reminiscences which were exchanged, and in all of it was the Master honored as the author and finisher of their faith and of their service. The Board, through its Secretary, and the General Conference assembled in Cincinnati, transmitted congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Gass on the occasion of this unique anniversary.

Our missionaries Rev. and Mrs. Feierabend at Mahasamund were rejoiced at the birth of a daughter, Ruth, on August 13, and our furloughed missionaries the Menzels at the birth a son, Richard, on December 6.

Furloughs. Miss Hedwig Schaeffer, after having enjoyed a short course of study in the homeland and having done extensive promotional work in various parts of the Synod, again said farewell to her parents and other dear ones in the month of October to return to her work at the girls' school in Raipur.

In the spring of the year a number of missionaries were entitled to return home for the usual furlough period. Among them were Missionary E. Menzel and family from Bisrampur, Rev. T. C. Seybold from Raipur, Sister Minnie Gadt from Tilda, and Miss Anna Schichi from Khariar.

The work of these furloughed missionaries while at home on furlough has already been referred to under the head of "Promotion."

THE INDIAN CHURCH

During the course of the year the opening of a new missionary center in the Zemindari of Phingeswar in the Mahasamund area under the auspices of the India Mission District was reported. This work is being supervised entirely by the officers of this District organization and with funds contributed by our Indian churches on the field. Several houses have been erected to accommodate the two Christian workers stationed at this center and active work by these workers has now been begun. Although these workers have been there only since June 10, their witnessing has not been without fruit; for already 20 inquirers are being instructed for baptism in this new field. The India Mission District shows commendable interest in the task of Christianizing the non-Christian people among whom the Christian members of the churches are living, and seeks to give expression through this coordinated missionary enterprize to its zeal in carrying out the Master's missionary command.

Growth in Church Membership. There has been a gratifying growth in the membership of the church in our India field. At the beginning of 1933 the number of baptized Christians in our various congregations was 4,946 whereas at the close of the year the number was 5,327.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

A. EVANGELISTIC WORK

The leaders in our evangelistic work are quite naturally our missionaries, both men and women, and the trained Indian workers who have passed through our Evangelical Theological Seminary at Raipur or some other Christian schools of preparation. They are a goodly number when taken together, numbering 32 missionaries, 5 ordained pastors, 103 catechists, 25 Bible women, 6 Bible colporteurs. Yet when this group of workers is divided up among the great body of the non-Christian population of the area, it is disappointingly small, averaging but one worker, man or woman, to every nine thousand of the non-Christian population.

Results of Evangelistic Work. During the course of the year 213 non-Christian people were won and baptized and the various stations report the number of inquirers being prepared for baptism as follows: Bisrampur 3, Raipur 10, Chandkuri Leper Asylum 24, Mahasamund, including Phingeswar 49, Chandrapur 85, Khariar 35, total 206.

Tracts and Bible Parts Distributed. The distribution of tracts and Bible parts was again very large, numbering 21,224. The stations which have excelled in this type of evangelistic work were Chandrapur, Raipur and Khariar.

Women's Work. The number of missionary ladies who can devote their entire time to the work among women was smaller during the past year than for a number of years previous, due to the fact that home furloughs of our zenana workers became due and furthermore because

illness among our lady workers further reduced our forces. In spite of this fact, however, a considerable amount of work was done among the women of the area as will be seen from the reports of our women workers, brief extracts of which are herewith appended.

Miss Kies reports for Raipur: "In the past year we held 7,342 meetings in 4,683 homes in which 47,075 had an opportunity of hearing the Gospel message. We witnessed for the Lord in 32 sections of Raipur and in 50 villages."

For the Parsabhader area Miss Dorothy Riechers has the following report to make. "During the last year we visited 67 villages. 38 of these were visited while on tour. 2,380 meetings were held with approximately 6,000 people present in these meetings."

B. EDUCATIONAL WORK

Various aspects of our school work are emphasized by the different missionaries in reporting on same. From Bisrampur, Rev. J. C. Koenig writes: "The experiments with the new method of education begun by Rev. Menzel were continued and have attracted much attention. The aim of the new syllabus is essentially to get away from mere book knowledge and to link the teaching with the actual life and situations in the villages. Incidentally this also awakens a much greater interest on the part of the pupils. That this latter aim is achieved is shown by the lowest classes in both our boys' and our girls' school, which are now crowded to capacity."

Dr. J. Gass of Raipur tells of having received more applications for admission into the mission high school than could be granted. It was gratifying to note the very fine results by students of the high school in the final examination of the year.

The schools of Baitalpur station have been in charge of Mrs. Dr. Herbert Gass who has given much time and effort to the improvement of the instruction in these schools.

The girls' primary school at Baloda Bazar is in charge of Miss Riechers, and we glean from her report the following references "Our girls' primary school in Baloda has an enrollment of 68 girls with 3 teachers in charge. For many years our pupils have been Hindu and Mohammedan girls only. This year several Satnami (low caste) girls have enrolled without any objections from the Hindus. A healthy sign of the breaking down of the caste prejudice. We are also putting into practice to a certain extent the new syllabus."

The Parsabhader station stands second in the number of pupils enrolled in mission schools, being exceeded only by Raipur. These schools are in charge of Rev. M. P. Davis who writes "The 12 mission schools of Parsabhader and vicinity have over one thousand pupils. Fortunately improvement is taking place in the curriculum and the method of teaching. The new syllabus, in which Rev. Menzel and now Rev. Koenig are leaders, is being introduced in several schools here. As the children of rural areas are receiving more consideration in this new syllabus the results are more gratifying."

The growth in the enrollment in the Anglo-vernacular middle school at Mahasamund is very gratifying. The missionary in charge is the Rev. H. A. Feierabend. He reports: "The Anglo-vernacular middle school has an enrollment of 97 boys at present which is an increase over last year. This increase is partly due to compulsory education in a number of villages, and to some advertising and the general popularity of the school. The building is overcrowded, one large room for four classes divided by large curtains. We are glad that another room has been sanctioned. We expect a steady increase in enrollment. In the annual examination several Christian boys again stood highest. Several scholarships for poor boys are still being paid by gentlemen of Mahasamund."

Special Schools. The Theological Seminary at Raipur in charge of Dr. J. Gass, has again had a successful year. For reasons of economy the number of students has been held down to the low figure of 9. It is gratifying, however, to report that a number of these students have higher educational qualifications than has been the case in years gone by and Dr. Gass reports that this fact greatly facilitates their understanding of the subjects taught in the Seminary. In addition to Dr. Gass, Rev. W. Baur also serves as an instructor in the Theological Seminary and has devoted seven hours a week to teaching church history and the life of Christ.

At the beginning of the year the Seminary graduated five young men who have been assigned to the various stations at catechists.

The Women's Bible Training School is located at Parsabhadar and is in charge of Mrs. Helen Enslin-Suger. The work in this school includes both an academic and a practical course. The courses taught in the school are the same as heretofore, and they are supplemented by practical courses in housekeeping, the holding of meetings, of daily devotions, and for the senior class there is included a weekly visit to the villages of the area for the purpose of establishing vital contacts with non-Christian women. The enrollment in the school was 11 of whom 3 pupils graduated at the close of the school year.

C. MEDICAL WORK

The medical work carried on by our missionary doctors and nurses in the large hospitals at Tilda and Chandkuri, and by our missionaries and their associates, among whom are Indian doctors, compounders and nurses, is expressed in very large figures. The statistics show that the number of new cases recorded amount to 20,156 with attendance of 60,825. The number of operations was 1,276.

Tilda. At Tilda the work has been in charge of Dr. E. W. Whitcomb with whom were associated our missionary nurses Sister Minnie Gadt, until her return to America on furlough, and Sister Alma Jungermann, our latest missionary recruit. The Tilda hospital work has again been very large since the total number of new cases this hospital handled 7,487 and of attendances 11,409, and performed 852 operations.

Chandkuri. Of the medical work at Chandkuri which is in charge of Dr. H. H. Gass and our missionary nurse Miss M. Magdalene Kroehler, our missionaries report as follows: "The very fact that we have in the leper asylum about 600 patients is enough of a hint to the amount of work to be done. Not all of these are under specific leprosy treatment but due to the very nature of the disease even those not under treatment present to us a variety of medical and surgical problems. Statistics are never very interesting but do give us some worthwhile facts. In our in-patient hospital wards last year we took care of 266 patients. The total number of operations during the year is 352. Among these of course are listed operations both of a major and minor character. About 52 different types of medical and surgical conditions were treated during the past year among non-leper patients."

The Training of nurses, both men and women, has been in charge of our missionary nurse Miss Kroehler and has enlisted a number of very valuable assistants through the special training given. Because of the rather limited intellectual capacity of some of the nurses in training the entire responsibility for the cases placed in their charge can not be turned over to them and must still remain with our missionary nurse.

III. Honduras

OUR MISSIONARIES

The close of the year 1933 finds our mission in Honduras on the threshold of a redistribution of its missionaries over a very much larger area of the field. In listing our missionaries we anticipate somewhat in announcing the new addresses of our workers as they will be after the first of February, 1934.

San Pedro Sula: Pastor H. N. Auler, Mrs. Auler, Miss Anna Bechtold, Miss Elsie GoepfARTH, Miss Louise Vordenberg, Miss Louise Kurz, Sister Hulda Sturm.

Yoro: Pastor Fr. Andres, Mrs. Andres.

Pinalejo: Pastor W. H. Herrscher, Mrs. Herrscher.

On Furlough: Miss Bertha Scheidt.

According to reports our missionaries have enjoyed good health throughout the year. There have been the usual cases of slight fever and other indispositions due to the tropical climate, but on the whole the health of our missionaries in Honduras has been good. For this we thank God.

THE CHURCH

Although there has been no great growth in the membership of the church in Honduras, the prospects are considerably brighter than at the beginning of the year. This is particularly true of the work in Chamelecon.

Church at Chamelecon. In the previous year dissension had arisen among the members of the church in Chamelecon because of the inexcusable interference of sectarian preachers in the affairs of our congregation. Misled by the agitation carried on by these proselyting sectarian workers many of the members of our church became confused and a disruption of the church for a season at least resulted. During the year just past the conviction has dawned upon a number of those who broke away from the church that they have been misled, and there is a distinctly more favorable attitude toward our own church and our missionaries manifest at the close of 1933. Sunday school work has again been opened in Chamelecon with an average attendance of 50 scholars. Services are again being held at intervals and the ground work for a new organization of the church at Chamelecon according to President Pastor H. N. Auler's report has been laid.

In San Pedro Sula there has been a healthy development of the spiritual life in the congregation. Various societies in the church have given evidence of a very fine growth in numbers and in Christian service. Thus the Christian Endeavor Society undertook a program of evangelistic work which with that of the Adult Bible Class, Berea, set the regular workers free for work in regions beyond.

The members of the congregation seeing the inadequacy of the downtown chapel to house the rapidly growing Sunday school, built a new pavilion entirely with local funds and voluntary helpers. Therein is seen not only a very gratifying growth in Sunday school attendance but also a splendid spirit of co-operation and self-help on the part of the young congregation in this city.

The membership in the San Pedro congregation is about the same as last year, when the number of baptized was 86, with 38 communicants. 12 adults took catechetical instructions and of these two were baptized on Christmas Eve. The other members either must wait a while longer or prefer to do so. The average attendance in the San Pedro Sunday school is 145 and at La Lima 60.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

A. EVANGELISM

Work in La Lima, Tela, and Puerto Cortez. The work in La Lima has been taken care of by Miss Louise Vordenberg and several Honduran assistants. The Sunday school at this place has shown very gratifying growth and has won the trust and support of an increasingly large number of residents. The Fruit Company has kindly furnished a better located room for the Spanish Sunday school and with regular evening services on Saturday and the Sunday school, interest has been kindled so that the people have asked an additional service each week. A new type of work has been begun at the request of the American residents of La Lima in that church services are being held for them at regular intervals by one of our ordained workers.

A request from the American residents in Tela having been received, our missionaries have inaugurated services at regular intervals in this important coastal city. Pastor Auler and Pastor Herrscher are devoting attention to the development of these services.

Puerto Cortez had often been visited by Miss GoepfARTH until sectarian agitators also undermined the work of our missionaries in this important center. With great regret was the work closed down about a year ago. It is all the more gratifying that the very people who were led away from our own established work have now of their own accord sent in a request for a resumption of the work by our missionaries.

Tract Distribution. Our missionaries in Honduras have always stressed the distribution of tracts and Gospel portions and in the year gone by approximately 50,000 of them have been distributed in many towns, villages and isolated hamlets. Rev. Auler reports that much Christian literature is mailed to such places which can not be regularly visited. His reference to this type of distribution of literature contains interesting information. He writes: "The mailing of literature at frequent intervals proved to be helpful, especially where we can not visit. Telegrams and letters continue to inquire about material and to ask for more. One man in the Department of Yoro uses literature received to evangelize his neighbors and all who stop at his roadside house to buy food. He reported interest and longing for more material."

New Mission Stations. As indicated in the paragraph referring to a redistribution of our missionaries about to take place at the beginning of the year 1934, two new mission stations have been planned and arranged for. Due to the funds received from the Evangelical Women's Union our missionaries have been placed in a position to open a new mission station in Yoro, about seventy miles southeast of San Pedro Sula, where appropriate buildings will be erected to house the Andres family during the new year. All plans for the occupation of this place have been made during the year just past. A similar project includes the occupation of another town lying about fifty miles from San Pedro but to the southwest in this case. The town of Pinalejo is the place chosen and suitable buildings are being offered our missionaries without rent for five years, the only condition being that they be put and kept in good repair. Pastor and Mrs. Herrscher will be stationed at this second new station of the interior. Thus, without an increase in our missionary forces, two new centers are about to be established. From them large areas which have only occasionally been contacted will be regularly visited by our missionaries and their Honduran assistants.

B. EDUCATIONAL WORK

The educational work of the Mission has thus far been concentrated in San Pedro Sula where a flourishing school has been developed under

the leadership of Miss Anna Bechtold. She writes about the school as follows: "The school work has again occupied almost to the exclusion of everything else my time and thought. The number of pupils for 1933 has been about the same as in the past few years. A total of 82 were enrolled, 53 remaining to the end. 28 withdrew, partly due to the general unrest also felt here because of the depression. This was especially true of the higher grades. From the 6th, 5 of the 6 enrolled withdrew, 3 because of their father's business reverses. That left but one girl, Rose Oro, to form the graduating class of 1933. As our school closed on December 16, we took occasion to put the Christmas spirit into our closing program. Songs, recitations, cantata, even the theme of the graduation essay,—all were chosen to give the Christmas message as we knew that many who would attend would not hear the precious story in any other way. And many came—so many that again we had to apologize for the lack of room in our school auditorium.

Training of workers. A number of our missionaries participated in the training of prospective Honduran workers by assuming certain subjects of the curriculum prepared for the training school. The training school will be removed from San Pedro to the new station contemplated for Pinalejo and will hereafter be in charge of Pastor and Mrs. W. Herrscher.

Teachers Training School. A teacher training class has been carried on for some time by Mrs. H. Auler from whose report we glean the following: "A group of four young people of the congregation completed the course 'Apt to Teach' in June and were rewarded with their certificates of recommendation from the Board of Religious Education (St. Louis) and were presented with them in an evening service in the chapel. All four are active in our San Pedro Sunday school."

C. MEDICAL WORK

Our only trained medical worker in the Honduras field is Sister H. M. Sturm who returned to Honduras in May from a furlough spent in the homeland. Her own summary of the work she was privileged to do from May, 1933, to January, 1934, is as follows:

"289 individuals came to the Mission Compound for medicine or treatment. 160 visits were made to homes in San Pedro.

Nursing care was given in homes 10 times, to sick ones on the Compound 40 times. For 40 days a room on the ground floor of the small cement house was occupied by sick believers from outside places and by one worker.

Several illustrated lectures on health subjects were given to the Women's group of San Pedro.

For four months weekly classes in first aid work and simple medicines were given to the three young workers: Don Benjamin, Don Jorge and Don Mercedes. Much interest was shown by the young men and as they go out to the mountain villages they can be a blessing and help to the suffering ones.

Five clinics were held in Chamelecon and 121 were treated for hook-worm disease, sore eyes and fevers."

Rev. W. Herrscher speaks of "The Unfinished Task":

"The past year has again emphasized to me that the task is never finished. We must dedicate, but cannot terminate. With regret, often involuntary, the economic distress has helped to allay interest in the missionary cause. We are thankful to those who still remember the work through intercession, as well as financially. With Him, the Christ, we shall go forward to meet our obligation. God's love does not terminate. Man finishes his course, but God's love will go on forever. There are mul-

titudes who need the uplift that He alone can supply. Even if Alpha has been ministered to for months, or even years, there is a Beta to take her place. As we widen our scope of acquaintances, the unfinished task grows in wider proportions."

In emphasizing the encouraging and challenging messages of our Honduras missionaries the Board would close its report for the year 1933. Perhaps this report is a final one on the specific work carried on by our Synod in the foreign field. If the plan for a merger of the Evangelical Synod and the Reformed Church in the United States takes place during the course of the year another year may make the issuance of a joint report on the foreign missionary work of both churches seem advisable. Great and glorious days lie behind us, filled with blessings from above upon the home constituency and upon the people of our foreign mission fields, but great days are also ahead, for the promise of God calls us to go onward and forward. As the Master sent forth his disciples two and two, to carry the Gospel message into every town and village, so does the Master now send forth our Synod and our brother church, the Reformed Church in the U. S. A., to go hand in hand in carrying the Gospel no longer only to their own respective fields, but to the united fields, which will include India, Honduras, Japan, China, and Iraq. With the prayer of the Master that they may all be one about to receive a partial fulfillment in the merger of at least two church bodies, we go forward expectantly, certain of our call, confident of Divine blessings.

T. R. Schmale, Chairman.

F. A. Goetsch, Executive Secretary.

Total expenditures, \$114,267.79.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS

The Board of Publications as elected by the General Conference, 1933, with additional members elected by the Board of Directors of the Synod and approved by the General Council, February, 1934, assembled for its first meeting on February 27, a. c., at Eden Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo., and organized as follows:

Chairman: Rev. Theo. A. Haefeke

Vice-chairman: Mr. A. C. Goetsch

Secretary: Rev. Ed. F. Mayer

Treasurer: Mr. Wm. Samel

Board of Trustees of Eden Publishing House: Rev. Theo. A. Haefeke, Mr. A. C. Goetsch, Mr. Wm. Samel, Mr. Edw. W. Wiese, Rev. E. E. Leibner. Literary Committee: Prof. C. E. Schneider, Prof. Jno. Biegeleisen, Mr. John E. Schmale, Rev. Otto Press, Prof. Paul Crusius.

Chicago Sub-Committee: Rev. G. A. Neumann, Mr. A. Schoch; Election of a third member referred to the Executive Committee.

Additional members are: Rev. Robt. C. Kuebler, Rev. F. R. Schreiber, Rev. C. W. Klein, Rev. Clyde Koehler, Mr. John H. Peters, Mr. John L. Wrege, Rev. E. W. Berlekamp.

Advisory Members: Rev. J. H. Horstmann, D.D., Editor of the "Evangelical Herald"; Rev. Otto Press, Editor of "Der Friedensbote"; Rev. H. Kamphausen, D.D., Editor of the "Theological Magazine"; Rev. Fred McQueen, Editor-in-Chief of Religious Educational Periodicals; Jos. P. Hennings, General Manager, Eden Publishing House.

EDEN PUBLISHING HOUSE

Our fiscal year differs from that of the Synod and other synodical boards in that it runs from July 1 to June 30. Our last business year, 1932-33, was extensively reviewed in our supplementary report to the General Conference. Nothing can be added at this time except that business

during the first six months of the current fiscal year has shown improvement in merchandise and printing department whereas the subscription department is still lagging behind (see comparative circulation statement). We are convinced that this department more than any other will greatly profit by the merger with the Reformed Church in the U. S. Informal meetings with our Reformed brethren have been arranged and definite plans should be available in a not too distant future.

	CIRCULATION STATEMENT		
	Feb. 1,	Aug. 7,	Feb. 1,
Friedensbote	14,236	11,872	11,341
Herald	12,095	9,145	8,680
Theological Magazine	639	574	578
Light Bearer	6,397	5,486	5,684
Feierstunden	1,359	1,076	—
Kinderzeitung	1,781	1,233	—
Tidings	19,736	17,852	18,617
Girls' Friend	19,484	16,030	16,544
Boys' Companion	16,811	13,821	13,996
Children's Comrade	13,645	11,581	11,236
Our Work (Mission)	22,373	16,972	17,043
Fliegende Missions-Blaetter	4,920	3,532	3,233
Mission Sunday	10,164	7,994	8,428
Biblische Geschichten Quarterly	4,495	3,486	3,361
Bible Story Quarterly	17,122	15,145	13,805
Bible Story Pictures	2,632	1,941	1,468
Das Heim	5,387	4,774	4,415
Adult Student	33,434	33,284	31,794
Intermediate-Senior Quarterly	26,276	22,988	23,264
Uniform Junior Pupil	6,749	5,667	5,001
Group Junior Pupil	10,829	12,704	13,340
Group Junior Teacher	1,086	1,453	1,540
Group Primary Teacher	1,097	1,240	1,302
Group Primary Stories	—	12,697	13,380
Group Beginners' Stories	—	7,670	8,096
Group Beginners' Teacher	—	659	740
Picture Cards	8,053	2,774	2,263
Picture Rolls	242	74	59

The Board of Publications.

Theo. A. Haefele, Chairman

J. P. Hennings, General Manager.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The most encouraging kind of a report that this Board could possibly file is one that bespeaks a renewed interest and an awakened enthusiasm and a new vision of the immediate and tremendous challenge of Christian education as a basic and fundamental task of the Christian Church. Such a report, this Board is more than pleased to be able to bring as it surveys the development of its work during the past year. On every hand, practically in every quarter of our land, men and women are beginning to see anew the fact that in the "vital and fundamental sense the whole life of the Christian Church is an educational enterprise and that its entire work is that of teaching." Never has Christian education had such demands made upon it as are being made upon it today. Not for cen-

turies has there been a greater opportunity for Christian idealism to come into its own than exists at this present time, when utter disregard for Christian principles has run itself amuck. Certainly the process of re-thinking, of reevaluating and of rededicating must be the order of the day. And a great encouragement lies in the fact that as Christian leaders are more and more recognizing this challenge, they are likewise appreciating the dire need for richer personal development so that their perspective may be truer and the basis for their rethinking and reevaluating more soundly Christian.

Since in our quadrennial report to the General Conference we have already indicated certain developments in our work and certain results which tend to support the above encouraging observation, we shall confine this present report to a very brief summary of the services extended to our churches and church schools by this Board during the past fiscal year, along with the responses on the part of those to whom these services were offered. In all of its planning and in all of its service activities, the Board conceives one of its chief objectives that of gearing Christian education so directly to life that the establishment of a truly Christian world may not be merely an idealistic dream.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Although seven instead of eight summer schools were operated this past season, the total enrollment exceeded last year's figure and the cost of operation was reduced about 70%.

3,187 credit certificates for leadership training courses completed were issued by the Board of Religious Education during the past fiscal year. Folks from nineteen out of our twenty-one districts were included in the above figure.

GUIDE FOR CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION

Perhaps the one biggest contribution that this past year has yielded is the preparation and the publication of the Guide for Confirmation Instruction. From all sections of the field have come interesting reactions and evidences of appreciation. This enterprise has undoubtedly focused anew the attention of our entire clergy upon this strategic opportunity of our church, yet its chief contribution seems to be in the direction of revitalizing and of giving new meaning to this significant heritage.

LESSONS FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

This is the second year for the new lesson material which you will recall was first published in the fall of 1932. And since its publication it has been gratefully accepted by a growing constituency. In fact in the three departments which are thereby served, circulation has increased 51%.

LIGHT BEARER

Each successive year it is the earnest purpose of the Board of Editors of the Light Bearer to make this educational workers' magazine most helpful and profitable to Christian leaders everywhere. The sustained subscription list, in spite of economic conditions, seems to speak volumes for at least a degree of success in this editorial ambition.

This year the magazine hopes to make a real contribution to a basic fundamental consideration. The theme for 1934 is "Gearing Christian Education to Life." The development of this subject is being attempted by a consideration of the following six sub-themes:

January and February—"Building Christian Family Life."

March and April—"Building a Christian Church."

May and June—"Building a Christian Economic Order."

July and August—"Building a Christian Community and Nation."

September and October—"Building Christian International Relations."
November and December—"Building Christian Citizenship."

OTHER PERIODICALS AND LESSON MATERIALS

It may be of interest to note that through its editorial department, the Board of Religious Education during the past year has edited in all twenty-one different periodicals, including weekly papers, lesson materials, etc. Through Eden Publishing House these are distributed, the profits therefrom accruing to the Publishing House and of course eventually to the Synod as is constitutionally provided.

PUBLICATIONS OF CENTRAL OFFICE

A great variety of helps and materials have again been published and released by our Central Office during the past twelve months. Among the most significant publications are—Guide for Confirmation Instruction (previously referred to); Prospectus for New Lesson Course "Lessons for Christian Living"; "1933 Vision"; "Songs for Fellowship and Faith"; Evangelical Church School Calendar; Program Suggestions for Special Seasons, etc.

CONSULTATION WORK

Consultation service both through personal conference and by mail has constituted a large part of our work. Again this year about three thousand personal letters have gone out from our office. And these have dealt with a huge variety of problems. Naturally many of our replies entail a considerable amount of research in order that they may be of most value to the inquirer. Surely this sort of service should be encouraged and enlarged.

SERVICE LIBRARY

For the third year, now, we are happy to report an increase in Library circulation. The total increase over the circulation figure of three years ago now stands at 231%. This is tremendously significant as we think what the results of such personal enrichment will mean to more effective Christian leadership.

VISUAL EDUCATION

Approximately 6,000 folks during the past year have viewed our E. L. T. S. movie, depicting activities in six of our eight schools. From information gleaned this summer, we have proof of the fact that a number of our 1933 E. L. T. S. freshmen were persuaded to attend through the influence of this picture. Believing therefore in this means of promoting summer school interest as particularly effective, we took about seven hundred more feet of film this past summer. These new pictures along with some of the old ones have been reworked into a completely new film, bound together with a new scenario, entitled "Adventures in Christian Living." This new film has already been extensively used and we hope that it will serve at least as well if not more effectively than the old one. Some new stereopticon slide sets have also been recently prepared to serve those groups who can best use this type of picture.

It may be of interest for you to know that we have given considerable time and study this past year to the whole field of religious motion pictures. We are just now engaged in compiling a list of available subjects with names of distributors, etc. This service will be placed at the disposal of our whole constituency.

Another visual education service which we have just recently extended and which we hope will make a worthwhile contribution to Christian teaching consists of four series of religious pictures—twelve pictures to each series. These are reproductions of some which have previously appeared in the Light Bearer. And because the initial cost of the plate

need not be charged against the cost of the print, these can be offered at a nominal cost.

VACATION CHURCH SCHOOLS

It is particularly significant to note the steady increase which each year has been recorded in the field of vacation church school activity. For the past four years this progress has been very apparent and the year 1933 has been no exception. According to latest statistics, total enrollment in vacation church schools which were either operated solely by Evangelical churches or in which Evangelical children participated, showed an increase over the previous year's enrollment of 10%.

FIELD WORK

For the splendid cooperation and the cordial reception given our Board representatives in all districts visited this past year, we are deeply grateful. We sincerely hope that these contacts have been instrumental in giving increased impetus and vitality to the work of Christian education and in helping to make the actual work of teaching more effective.

Number of different districts visited by Board of Religious Education representatives	14
Number of different regional conferences participated in by Board of Religious Education representatives	16
Aggregate number of strictly denominational contacts made	201
Aggregate number of interdenominational contacts made	51
Total number of field engagements for the year	252

THE CHALLENGE IS IMMEDIATE

Practically all of the foregoing has had to do with a record of progress and achievement. It might seem to the casual observer that all is going well and that Christians ought to be satisfied. However, we would not be true to the Christ if we should permit such an impression to stand. As a matter of fact Christian education has scarcely scratched the surface of its possibilities and of its responsibilities. Christian leadership has already sensed its potential influence. The actual challenge, for most of us, is just looming upon our horizon, but the urgency for intelligent, efficient, consecrated and united work is immediate. May we as a denomination recognize anew the truth which Jesus so completely understood and so effectively practiced namely "that to establish the Kingdom of God in the hearts and lives of men, one must deliberately reject the political methods open to him, and must undertake his work by the more inward, leaven-like method of the moral and spiritual education of persons."

A. R. Keppel, Executive Secretary.

Total expenditures, \$29,944.18.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF PENSION AND RELIEF For 1933

The Board of Pension and Relief begs to submit the following concise report of its work in 1933. Due to curtailment of all income the pension amounts had to be reduced thirty dollars for pastors and twenty-four dollars for widows during the year. Yet we were able to pay \$84,907 in pension; \$14,465 in relief; \$7,641 in years of service prior to 1910 and \$1,075 in special relief, a total sum of \$108,088 for the year. This was paid to 188 pastors, 241 widows and 21 children. Mrs. M. Mack again returned her amount to the relief treasury and Dr. D. Irion placed part of his pension at the disposal of the Board for Relief. Both are meritorious examples of Christian sharing; we thank them heartily.

Twenty-six pastors and eight widows who were on our list at the beginning of the year were called into the higher life. Forty-six new

members were accepted into the Fund. Membership now becomes mandatory by virtue of a constitutional change by the last General Conference. The number of pastors still not members of the Fund is steadily growing smaller, due largely to the realization on the part of the pastors that the Fund is actually offering them a rare opportunity both of protection and investment. The Board firmly believes the day of unfair criticism and derogation of the Fund is over and that our pastors have awakened to a decided revaluation and deep appreciation of the far reaching work this Fund has been so conscientiously doing for the past twenty-five years. A special circular has been mailed to all pastors of the Synod giving details of the resolutions of the General Conference as they affected our Fund, and urging all pastors to avail themselves of the special privileges for a limited time.

At this writing it is almost a certainty that the village of Blue Springs will install waterworks, thus bringing a long cherished wish for our Home into realization. A generous donor has offered us two thousand dollars to erect another cottage at Bensenville, and since this is about one-half of the cost of a cottage, the Board decided to gratefully accept the offer. We owe a gracious vote of thanks to the Women's Union, which has given us one-third of the Thankofferings for the past two years for the cottage erected at Blue Springs, and has again promised us one-third of the Thankofferings for 1934 for the treasury of the Fund, to be used especially for relief. Let us not minimize also the fine publicity they are thus giving our cause.

The pension for 1934 has been increased ten dollars for pastors and eight dollars for widows over the final payments of 1933. Perhaps, if general conditions improve during the year, there can be another increase, but the Board felt it best not to promise more than it actually could pay.

It has been a source of real joy to this Board to be able to continue to make its pension payments during these years of financial stringency, and thus to demonstrate its strength, especially in these trying times, which have not exempted the ministry from bitter financial losses. We solicit your confidence and your support.

Respectfully submitted,

The Board for Pension and Relief:

*Rev. Silas P. Bittner, Chairman
Dr. E. Hohmann, Vice-chairman
Rev. A. Dreusicke, Secretary
Rev. H. Wintermeyer, Treasurer
Rev. E. F. Abele
Mr. A. Dittmann
Rev. E. Jaeger
Mr. F. G. Rapp
Mr. J. Ruehlmann*

**REPORT OF THE BOARD FOR ENDOWMENT AND
TRUST FUNDS**

Carefully reading our treasurer's detailed report, we feel practically all is said that needs to be said to give a correct picture of the present status of the Endowment and Trust Funds of our Synod.

Of late the handling of these funds involved considerably more work, particularly for our treasurer, and the income has been less, on account of prevailing economic conditions than formerly, but it seems that a turn for better times has been made.

During the last fiscal year 3¾% interest was paid to the beneficiaries.
Hoping that with conditions improving we will be able to do better
next year, we are

Respectfully yours,

Wm. Grotfeld, Chairman

Paul Irion, Secretary

Albert Schoch, Treasurer

Wm. Andressohn, Trustee

Wm. A. Koerbs, Trustees

I respectfully submit herewith my report as Treasurer of the Board
for Endowments and for Trust Funds, for the fiscal year ending January
31, 1934, as follows:

	Income and		
	Principal	Expense	Total
Balance, Feb. 1, 1933	\$ 3,277.18	\$ 615.54	\$ 3,892.72
RECEIPTS			
Eden Theo. Sem., Endowment	1,100.00	—	1,100.00
Elmhurst College, Scholarship	2,500.00	—	2,500.00
Ministerial Pension and Relief	4,411.40	—	4,411.40
C. & M. Tempel, Endowment	601.58	—	601.58
Payments on Principal	11,260.00	—	11,260.00
Foreclosure costs repaid	590.93	—	590.93
Rents received	3,037.96	—	3,037.96
Accrued interest repaid	15.50	—	15.50
Tax advances repaid	240.00	—	240.00
Interest received on Mortgages	—	50,571.44	50,571.44
 Totals	\$27,034.55	\$51,186.98	\$78,221.53
DISBURSEMENTS			
New mortgages purchased	\$13,300.00	\$ —	\$13,300.00
Foreclosure costs:			
Attorney fees	1,565.00	—	1,565.00
Court Costs	451.19	—	451.19
Taxes and Assessments	1,487.81	—	1,487.81
Repairs	672.65	—	672.65
Fire Insurance premiums	656.01	—	656.01
Advertising	176.60	—	176.60
Miscellaneous, Abstracts, etc.	161.70	—	161.70
Costs on Deeded Property:			
Paid a/c Quit Claim Deeds	1,773.48	—	1,773.48
Attorney fees	100.00	—	100.00
Taxes paid	3,026.62	—	3,026.62
Repairs, collection fees, etc.	796.23	—	796.23
Miscellaneous Disbursements:			
Accrued interest	15.50	—	15.50
Advanced a/c Tax and Insurance	390.25	—	390.25
Interest paid on funds	—	47,932.50	47,932.50
Administration Expenses:			
Treasurer's Salary	—	900.00	900.00
Traveling exp., phone, car fare, etc.	—	150.54	150.54
Rental, safe deposit boxes	—	121.00	121.00
Auditing	—	150.00	150.00
Attorney fees	—	25.00	25.00
Postage, stationery, etc.	—	81.10	81.10
Collection fees, tax on checks, exchange	—	29.17	29.17
 Totals	\$24,573.04	\$49,389.31	\$73,962.35
Balance, January 31, 1934	\$ 2,461.51	\$ 1,797.67	\$ 4,259.18

GENERAL FUNDS

Total funds February 1, 1933	\$1,275,690.03
New Funds Received:	
Eden Theological Seminary, Endowment	\$ 1,100.00
Elmhurst College, Scholarship	2,500.00
Ministerial Pension and Relief	4,411.40
C. & M. Tempel, Endowment	601.58
Total new funds received	\$ 8,612.98
Total funds Jan. 31, 1934	\$1,284,303.01

INVESTMENTS

Feb. 1, 1933, Mortgages in force (less foreclosures and property deeded)	\$1,154,555.00
New mortgages purchased	\$13,300.00
Foreclosures re-instated	53,200.00
Advanced a/c Tax and Insurance	390.25
Total	66,890.25
Mortgages paid	\$11,260.00
New foreclosures	48,500.00
New property deeded	37,925.00
Tax advances repaid	240.00
	97,925.00
Net amount of mortgages in force Jan. 31, 1934.....	\$1,123,520.25

FORECLOSURES

Under foreclosure Feb. 1, 1933, including costs.....	\$93,386.24
New foreclosures	48,500.00
Additional costs, 1933	5,170.96
Total	\$147,057.20
Mortgages re-instated	\$53,200.00
Foreclosure costs repaid	590.93
Foreclosures transferred to deeded property	2,555.60
Total	\$56,346.53
Total of foreclosures, including costs	\$ 90,710.67

DEEDED PROPERTY

Total deeded Feb. 1, 1933	\$24,471.61
New property deeded	37,925.00
Transfer from foreclosures	2,555.60
Additional costs, 1933	5,696.33
Total	\$70,648.54
Less rents received	3,037.96
Total cost deeded property, Jan. 31, 1934	\$ 67,610.58
Cash in bank Jan. 31, 1934	2,461.51
Total	\$1,284,303.01

REPORT OF THE EVANGELICAL BROTHERHOOD Covering the Year 1933

HISTORICAL

Last year marked the 20th anniversary of our Evangelical Brotherhood. Organized at the General Conference at Louisville in 1913, it has grown into every one of our districts and is represented in practically one-half of our churches. The Evangelical Brotherhood has aroused our men to a larger and cooperative service to the local congregation, the denomination and world at large. The Brotherhood program has challenged Evangelical men to a deeper devotion to their Christ and His Church. Untold are the blessings wrought by the Brotherhood program, plans and activities throughout these years. We pause to give thanks to God for this organization and pray that the coming years may see even greater service and blessings.

SOME FIGURES

The statistics show nearly 500 organizations with 21,691 members. During the year six new brotherhoods were organized. Four Junior Brotherhoods affiliated. We have 6 *district* and 18 *local federations*.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPROVAL

The last General Conference at Cincinnati in reviewing and passing on our work gave hearty approval in the following resolution:

1. The General Conference finds itself in hearty accord with the purpose of the Evangelical Brotherhood "To enlist and train Evangelical men for the promotion of the whole program of the whole church, locally and denominationaly" and recommends its ten objectives to the men of our church for more universal adoption:

1. Family Devotions
2. Lay Evangelism
3. Promoting Bible Study
4. Missionary Promotion
5. Public Worship
6. Christian Stewardship
7. Boys' Work
8. Social Service
9. Denominational Loyalty and Support
10. Good-will and Peace Among Races and Nations

2. The General Conference commends the Evangelical Brotherhoods for the establishment of the "Brotherhood Student Fund" and urges every Evangelical man to give this splendid project liberal and consistent support.

3. The General Conference recognizes the spiritual value of the yearly projects, namely:

1. Day of Prayer
2. Men's Retreats
3. Evangelical Day
4. Undershepherd Service
5. Brotherhood Corporate Communion and recommends them to our churches for adoption.

We are continuously holding up these objectives for recognition and promotion. They embrace the various activities in which churchmen should be interested. We must hold fast to these.

OUR ANNUAL PROJECTS

For the past years these are the projects which we have stressed and promoted each year in a special way:

1. *Day of Prayer for Missions on or near Ascension Day.* Again last year a number of Brotherhoods observed this occasion, some with the women's organization of the church. The printed program issued by the Women's Union is used.

2. *Undershepherd Service.* This service is growing popular among our men. Last year the 4th was issued. The offerings are to go to our Ministerial Pension Fund. Received in 1933: \$36.87. Many fail to send the offering. We hope they put it into their synodical funds.

3. *Brotherhood Reading Courses.* A great many of the books and pamphlets recommended each year in our Brotherhood Reading Course are being ordered each year. The Reading Course includes the annual *Mission Study Book* and annual *Stewardship Book*.

The following is the list for 1934:

1. What Can I Believe—Rall—15c.
2. The Divine Presence—L. H. Bugbee—15c.
3. The Sharing Life—Bishop R. Cushman—25c.
4. The Faith of Honest Doubt—Sherwood Eddy—10c.
5. Little Sections of a Big Job—P. A. Wobus—50c.

4. *Men's Retreats.* The one started at St. Louis has grown to six in different parts of the country. Suggestive programs are sent out by headquarters. We feel sure more will follow. The real purpose of a retreat has not fully been caught by some.

5. *Corporate Communion* on the First Sunday of Advent. A number of Brotherhoods regularly observe this brotherhood project. Of course such an event depends fully upon the pastor and church council. If they do not wish it, the Brotherhood can hardly observe it. We feel, however, it offers an excellent opportunity (1) to stress the more often coming to Holy Communion, greatly needed in our church where even some of the faithful come but once a year, (2) to have men on the first Sunday of a new Church Year re-dedicate themselves to God and the task of the Church, and (3) to issue a call and challenge to the men to enlist in active service. It might also be used as *Brotherhood Sunday* to promote organized work of men in the church.

6. *Student Support.* This was a new annual project, launched in September, netting \$268.50. As this noble project becomes better known and times improve we feel sure that these gifts will increase. This money is forwarded to Elmhurst College and Eden Seminary in equal amounts to be used at the discretion of the faculties in the support of theological students. Both President Lehmann and Dr. Press on behalf of their schools have expressed their appreciation for this support and congratulate the men on this greatly needed undertaking. September will be the month again for the annual contributions toward Student Support.

JUNIOR BROTHERHOODS

Last year we created a Junior Brotherhood for young men of 16-24 years and issued a manual, constitution, prepared an emblem, selected topics and other helps for this new organization. We are sure this new organization will fill a definite need in some of our churches.

FIELD WORK

Again last year the Executive Secretary was in the field much of the year. In all he traveled 19,000 miles, visited 57 churches, attended 74 conferences, conventions and meetings, spoke 148 times, was away from home 225 days. The total cost to the office was only \$185.00. This small cost was due to passes from railroads and auto service by pastors who

took him from one place to another, and free-will offerings from the churches and organizations.

This field work took him into ten of our twenty districts. In Texas and Nebraska he visited nearly all of the churches. These personal contacts mean much to our work in particular and to the Synod in general. This year he is to visit particularly the Kansas and Atlantic Districts.

Field work was also ably done by several members of the Board.

OUR BOARD MEMBERS

As the result of the elections at the General Conference last fall two of our members have been retired—the Revs. E. C. Grauer and E. J. Westerbeck. We thank both of them for the services given.

We heartily welcome the two new members of our Board, the Revs. W. Hausmann of Wheeling and E. A. Piepenbrok of Indianapolis, and are confident that both will give of their best to the Brotherhood cause.

At the National Convention at Milwaukee in August the terms of the following will expire: W. H. Witthaus, H. W. Schultheis, A. H. Bartling and Otto Fullgraff.

MILWAUKEE CONVENTION

This is national convention year. The invitation extended by the Milwaukee Brotherhood at the 1932 St. Louis convention was accepted and places the 10th National Convention in Milwaukee on August 21-24. Never before has a local committee worked so far in advance and with greater enthusiasm. We urge all Evangelical men to attend. In view of the merger, local Reformed Churchmen will act on committees, and an invitation will go to men of the Reformed Church everywhere. Dr. J. M. G. Darms, Secretary of the Reformed Churchmen's League, is gladly and actively cooperating.

MERGER WITH REFORMED CHURCH

This will mean the eventual merger of our men's work. The Reformed Church has a *Churchmen's League* corresponding to our Brotherhood in objectives, though not in organization. They have no separate national laymen's organization like ours, with national convention which elects and controls to a large extent the administration. They have an Executive Committee appointed by their General Synod which directs the Churchmen's League program and activities. Dr. J. M. G. Darms, D.D., General Secretary, met with our Board in February. As the result it was decided to issue jointly, beginning 1935.

1. The Monthly Program
2. The Annual Reading Course
3. Literature on Men's Work

and promote joint rallies or *Men's Congresses*. Already in many places men of our Church and the Reformed Church are meeting together. The name "Churchmen's Brotherhood" was suggested for the merged men's organization of the new united Church.

WE THANK YOU

In closing we would thank the pastors of our churches, all Federation officers and the thousands of members for the support given and the prayers offered on our behalf throughout the year. Here we would also register our deep appreciation for the able and faithful services of our happy office secretary, Miss Lee Schumann. God has been good to us.

His gracious name be praised. May He give us all another year of grace and service.

Respectfully submitted,

Evangelical Brotherhood Board

*W. H. Witthaus, President, St. Louis, Mo.
E. G. Trautmann, Vice-president, Columbus, Ohio.
A. G. Keller, Recording Secretary, Pekin, Ill.
H. W. Schultheis, Treasurer, Baltimore, Md.
G. H. Bartling, Detroit, Mich.
Rev. Wm. J. Hausmann, Wheeling, W. Va.
E. A. Fresen, Edwardsville, Ill.
Otto Fullgraff, Indianapolis, Ind.
Rev. A. E. Klick, Louisville, Ky.
Rev. E. A. Piepenbrok, Indianapolis, Ind.
H. H. Webbink, Independence, Mo.
Rev. H. L. Streich, Executive Secretary, St. Louis, Mo.*

Feb. 9, 1934.

Total expenditures, \$4,425.02.

REPORT OF EVANGELICAL WOMEN'S UNION

Covering the Year 1933

ANOTHER YEAR OF GROWTH

1933 was another year of growth in our women's work. More societies introduced the "Monthly Program," hundreds received training in Officers' Conferences, thousands were given needed information and inspiration in the hundreds of conventions, rallies and group meetings held, innumerable were the orders received for reference material and organizational helps, an unusual large number of Thankoffering boxes were requested, hundreds of women either studied the mission books in classes or read them alone, the Day of Prayer meetings were well attended and the contributions were all one might expect in these times, indeed in many cases far beyond.

For all of these blessings we thank God, the Giver of every good and perfect gift. He has wonderfully guided us and our Women's Union. His name be greatly praised.

TWO OUTSTANDING EVENTS

1933 will ever be marked by two outstanding events—the National Convention at Buffalo and the Katherine Goetsch Memorial project.

The Fifth National Convention of our Women's Union, though smaller in attendance than its predecessor, was a great convention in point of program, leadership, training and inspiration. All expenses were paid and a balance left.

We know of no other project that has ever received greater interest and more liberal support than did the *Katherine Goetsch Memorial*. Nearly \$11,000 was the amount of the gifts, which went way beyond our fondest expectations. As the happy result not only the bungalow, but practically the whole station of Chandrapur is now our loving memorial to the sacred life and devoted work of Mrs. Katherine Goetsch. Again we would thank all who so lovingly contributed.

OUR GROWING FAMILY

According to latest available (1932) statistics there are 1,334 societies with 76,416 members in the Synod. We have 45 Local Federations and 11 District Unions. This includes the District Union in India and one local Women's Union in Honduras.

One new Federation was started, the *West Iowa*. Colorado and Nebraska are still the only two Districts without a Federation.

GENERAL CONFERENCE APPROVAL

The last General Conference at Cincinnati last fall passed the following commendatory resolutions on our work:

1. "We recognize with grateful appreciation the remarkable achievements of the Evangelical Women's Union."
2. The General Conference gratefully acknowledges the generous support tendered in the past to Oakwood Institute by the Women's Union, and heartily endorses the 'Student Aid Fund' now being sponsored by this organization.
3. Whereas the Women's Union in its five fields of service, its six departments of work and its annual projects offers to the women of our churches unlimited opportunity for purposeful service,
Therefore be it resolved that we adopt the recommendations of the Union—
 1. That our societies and pastors be urged to use the "Monthly Program" and join in the annual projects of the Women's Union.
 2. That greater encouragement be given the organization and activities of our local Federations and District Unions."

OUR ANNUAL PROJECTS

Our annual projects may be classed as such which may be conducted by either individual societies or jointly through Federations and District Unions.

1. *Family Devotions.* 1,308 family devotions or Family Altars were introduced last year. A large number of "Daily Talks with God" were placed in homes and other devotional literature distributed.
2. *Quiet Hour.* This new project was first introduced last year and already 99 societies observed it. This *Quiet Hour* is conducted during Lent, preferably during the Holy Week.
3. *Evangelical Day of Prayer for Missions.* As reported 352 societies and Federations observed this Day of Prayer with an attendance of 11,998. This is inaccurate, since orders for programs exceeding our supply of 15,000 were filled. This meaningful service is growing in popularity each year. How appropriate that on Ascension Day, the blessed missionary day when the Christ gave his great commission, "Go ye—," thousands of Christian women are raising hands and hearts to God in the interest of the primary enterprise of the Church—Missions.

Naturally we also encouraged and promoted the observance of the *World Day of Prayer* on the first Friday in Lent and hundreds of our women joined with those of other communions in this world-wide prayer service.

The received offerings at the 1933 Evangelical Day of Prayer services were \$753.55, which was assigned to home and foreign mission projects. The 1934 Day of Prayer offering will also be for Missions.

4. *Mission Study Classes and Reading Courses.* Last year 118 Mission Study Classes were conducted. Some of these were joint or Federation classes. Hundreds of other women read the books individually. Our own mission book, "Little Sections of a Big Job" was unusually well received. The first edition was sold out.

If available, a book on the missions of the Reformed Church will be used this year.

Many societies subscribe for either "Our Work" or "Fliegende Mis-

sionsblaetter" for all members. *Mission Sunshine Boxes* reported—36. 384 joined our *Missionary Prayer Circle*.

5. *World Friendship Among the Children*. While only 101 reported, yet we are keeping this praiseworthy project before our women. While it is a project which might better, or more effectively, be promoted through the church schools, our Women's Union does interest many children through the mothers in this fine and effective expression of world friendship. The projects last year consisted of beautiful folios with pictures sent to the children of China.

The 1934 project is sending picture cards with fitting messages to the children of Holland, France and the Philippines.

6. *Women's Union Student Aid Fund*. The first appeal for this fund as voted by the Buffalo convention to replace the Oakwood Appeal in June resulted in \$880.61. These receipts are equally divided between Elmhurst College and Eden Seminary to be used as loans to needy students—men and women—studying for full-time Kingdom service. We feel sure this appeal for Student Aid will meet with increased response.

7. *Church Paper Week*. 137 societies participated and 735 new readers of our church papers were gained. The Women's Union is asking for a *Church Paper Sunday* to be added to the Church Paper Week in October, 1934.

It is interesting to note that the Reformed Church also has its Church Paper Week in October with one of the Sundays designated as "Church Paper Sunday."

8. *Support of Benevolent Institutions* especially around Christmas time. Records show that \$5,626.50 were given by our Women's organizations to these institutions in 1933.

9. *Missionary Institutes*. 10 Federations reported holding a Missionary Institute in 1933 with helpful programs and good attendance.

10. *Bible Institute*. Baltimore was the first Federation to have a Bible Institute. We are recommending it to others. Indianapolis is planning to have one this spring.

11. *Meditation Days*. Last year marked the second "Meditation Days" of two days by the South Illinois Federation at Eden Seminary. This is a retreat for the deepening of spiritual life. Buffalo and Milwaukee also had such a retreat. We are sure that in time others will also hold Meditation Days.

12. *Officers' Conference*. Nearly all of our city Federations and several others had some form of Officers' Conferences, either for Department Chairmen or officers, or both. Much real training is coming to our leaders from such Officers' Conferences. They are most valuable.

WOMEN'S UNION LIBRARIES

The number of societies with a *Women's Union Library* is growing. A number of Federations have also established such libraries. This means that hundreds of women are reading our recommended books and pamphlets.

CONVENTIONS AND MEETINGS

Since some Federations meet monthly, some quarterly, semi-annually, annually, or biennially, it means that *thousands of women* meet every year for inspiration, fellowship, training and information. Who can tell what this means in renewed efforts, new visions, higher standards, greater sacrifice, deeper devotion, increased faithfulness, more sacrificial giving, stronger faith in God, more spiritualized homes and happier Christian living. God alone could paint the whole picture. Would that all of our leaders, and especially all of our pastors, could see the untold benefits and

blessings of these helpful meetings, instead of complaining about "too many meetings."

SOME WORTHWHILE RESULTS

To get a comprehensive picture of our manifold activities we would here summarize some of the outstanding results of another year's work:

Using the Monthly Program—societies	800
Monthly Programs ordered	32,000
Women's Union Libraries—with 663 volumes	67
New Family Altars reported	1,308
Daily Talks sold	3,685
New Subscriptions for Church Papers	323
Sick Visits Made	19,940
Pieces of Literature distributed	3,268
Societies Observing "Quiet Hour" (Attendance 2,694)	99
Societies Observing Day of Prayer	352
Federations Observing Day of Prayer (Attendance 11,998)	6
New Members of Mission Prayer Circle	384
Mission Study Classes (Attendance 1,494)	122
Mission Institutes (Attendance 1,227)	10
Mission Sunshine Boxes distributed	36
Subscriptions for "Our Work"	121
Subscriptions for "Fliedende Missionsblaetter"	48
Societies using Thank-Offering Boxes	300
World Friendship Folios to China Children	101
Societies promoting Christian Citizenship	325

THE LOVE GIFTS OF THE YEAR

A summary of the various gifts and contributions of our women reveal the following interesting figures:

A. To and through the Women's Union

1. Dues	\$ 4,153.78
2. Day of Prayer Offering	753.55
3. Katherine Goetsch Memorial	10,642.23
4. Student Aid Fund	880.61
5. Thank-Offering	4,092.02
Total	\$20,522.19

B. Special Projects of Federations and District Unions

1. Ohio Union—Tilda Hospital	\$ 880.39
2. Buffalo Federation, Jacob's Well	365.83
3. North Illinois, Bensenville	208.00
4. South Illinois, Hoyleton	142.48

Total

\$ 1,596.70

C. Local Societies

1. To Local Church	\$85,509.00
2. To Missions	8,683.90
3. Special Gifts to Synod	2,956.46
4. For Benevolences	11,098.25

Total

\$108,247.61

Grand Total

\$130,366.50

THE THANK-OFFERING

The Thank-Offering last year dropped to the lowest level since inaugurated. Only \$4,092.02 compared with \$5,675.51 in 1932, and \$6,206.00 in

1931. However, we are deeply grateful for these gifts of thanks to God for His goodness in many ways. Toward the end of the year an unusually large number of requests was received for Thank-Offering boxes. The Thank-Offering went in equal parts to the three projects: Pastors' Home at Blue Springs, parsonage on Madeline Island and the new field in Honduras.

The 1934 projects are: Pension Fund, Ozark Mission Work and Training Nurses and Evangelists in Honduras.

Metal tablets are being placed on buildings, the cost of which is borne by the Women's Union. Not for the purpose of praise, but for the publicity value of such tablets, that folks would the more appreciate what the Women's Union Thank-Offering is doing.

MONTHLY PROGRAM

The Monthly Program is still our best informational and promotional piece of literature. Last year 28,000 copies of the English and 4,000 German copies were ordered. Our records show that over 800 of our societies are now using this program. This means that only one-third of our churches are not yet using the program. This number should be decreased in 1934.

An unusually large amount of *Reference Material is ordered*. It is certainly encouraging to note the amount of such material used.

No praise would be too high for our topic writer, Mrs. F. R. Schreiber. Her articles, both English and German, are masterful. We are deeply indebted to her for this able service. We also gratefully acknowledge the hearty cooperation and space given by the editors of our Church papers.

WOMEN'S UNION AT WORK

Our new publication, WOMEN'S UNION AT WORK, mimeographed and issued quarterly, has received a very warm welcome by our Federation and District Union officers and departmental chairmen, to whom alone it is sent gratis, to others at 50c a year.

FIELD WORK

A great deal of field work was again done last year by the secretaries and board members. The Assistant Secretary visited ten conventions, five group meetings, three Officers' Conferences and six local societies, speaking 43 times. The field work of the Executive Secretary took him into ten of the twenty Districts, visiting 57 churches, attending 74 conferences, conventions and meetings, speaking 148 times, traveling 19,000 miles and away from home 225 days.

No promotional work is quite as effective as this personal visitation.

THE MERGER

Some time during the year our Executive Committee will meet with the officers of the Reformed Women's Society in the interest of the coming merger. Let it be said here, that it will be several years before we can effect a complete merger of our two women's groups.

We are asking that our women everywhere attend meetings of the Reformed women and that our Federations and District Unions invite the women of the Reformed Church to their meetings, both as guests and as speakers.

IN APPRECIATION

In closing we would thank all officers and members of our many Federations and District Unions and our loyal and faithful pastors for their prayers and hearty support throughout the past year. We also gladly express our thanks to our Executive Secretary, Rev. H. L. Streich, to our Assistant Secretary, Mrs. E. Reichenbach and Office Secretary, Miss Lee

Schumann. Above all we acknowledge our gratitude to the Heavenly Father for His grace and guidance. May He again throughout this new year of grace and opportunity grant us health, wisdom and joy in our work. Let us give of our best to Him and our Women's Union.

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Directors Evangelical Women's Union

Mrs. R. Mernitz, President, Chicago Heights, Ill.

Mrs. K. Fitzgerald, 1st Vice-president, Louisville, Ky.

Mrs. Hugo Schuessler, 2nd Vice-president, Evansville, Ind.

Mrs. Elmer F. Hauenstein, 3rd Vice-president, Buffalo, N. Y.

Mrs. Ethel Duffy, 4th Vice-president, Detroit, Mich.

Mrs. Theo. Mayer, Recording Secretary, N. Tonawanda, N. Y.

Mrs. Ida Pauley, Treasurer, University City, Mo.

Mrs. G. Siegenthaler, Columbus, Ohio.

Rev. E. N. Kraft, Cleveland, Ohio.

Rev. W. J. Krueger, Louisville, Ky.

Rev. H. L. Streich, Executive Secretary, St. Louis, Mo.

Mrs. Elsa Reichenbach, Assistant Secretary, St. Louis, Mo.

St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 28, 1934.

Total expenditures, \$7,328.20.

REPORT OF THE EVANGELICAL LEAGUE

While but little time has passed since the meeting of the General Conference a few things have taken place that need to be brought to your attention for reference to the district conferences. The General Conference endorsed the objectives and principles of our young people's work as given in the quadrennial report, and this is taken to indicate that the work of the League board is to be carried on very much along the same lines that prevailed for a number of years.

Care will need to be exercised, that the fine developments in our youth work can be conserved and that nothing is permitted to happen that might hinder the full value of the on-going program, which is felt to have a very considerable bearing on the future interest of the youth in the church.

Perhaps the situation has not yet been faced as seriously by the church as it ought. Young people's work certainly ranks as one of the outstanding obligations of the church today. Unless the youth is reached, and that quite quickly, the church is storing up a lot of difficulty for itself. New set-ups of society are bound to overtake us, apparently very shortly. If the church is not more concerned about its real purpose, than it sometimes appears to be, it becomes a very definite question whether it can hold its youth in the days to come. If the church continues to permit its young people to evaporate as carelessly as it has done, it need not be at all surprised to find that the young people of tomorrow may not care whether they have the church or not. If it fails to give youth the lift and backing needed now, to at least face some of the current issues in an honest way, it can hardly dare to expect continued loyalty and support from the oncoming generation that, at least in a measure, is looking forward to a new order of things.

The League board has sought to do what it could to encourage young people to think intelligently, to apply themselves to valuable tasks, to discover and develop the inner sources of religion, to share cooperatively in fields of special interest. It has tried to acquaint youth with Christ and have it be an experience of vital daily living. Haltingly, perhaps, due to innumerable limitations, among which, and not the least, is the peculiar aloofness of the church to the underlying challenges of a changing world.

Various means at our disposal have been used. The periodicals, chiefly the Evangelical Tidings, an array of special materials—programs and the like, personal consultation, conventions and conferences have been used to inspire, inform and direct in a practical manner the young people of our churches. In various spheres they have been trained to assume responsibility, carry out plans and meet requirements involved in some definite purpose. They should be able to find in the church a service agency through which they can express themselves. The results, as small as they sometimes may seem, only serve to emphasize how much might be accomplished if a still wider range of activity were provided for, and if greater means were at the disposal of the various departments through which the board seeks to carry on its work.

Since the young people have interested themselves in the question of church union for some time, the pending merger with the Reformed Church in the U. S. is eagerly anticipated. Fellowship contacts have been established in several ways. On several occasions joint meetings of city groups have been held. In order to have the necessary information when the time of the merger approaches, a special study committee has been set up to consider the various phases involved.

The League board has been fully cognizant of the great problems that the denomination has been facing in its financial program and has ever been ready to make the adjustments that the situation called for. It, however, feels that the work which it directs is of such importance that it should not be asked to bear more than a proportionate share in the reductions that have to be made. The following table indicates the fact that the denominational budget support has gradually slipped back to being less than was given in 1925. It may represent a "saving" for the church and the difference may perhaps be absorbed by additional gifts from the young people themselves, but it would seem to indicate a rather unfortunate outcome. If the young people have to do things *for* themselves, they may soon prefer to do things *by* themselves much to a lasting loss for the church.

The annual meeting of the board was held early in February. Several changes in membership took place due to expired terms, the places being filled by new members elected by the general conference. Several department assignments are made outside of the membership of the board.

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Directors, Evangelical League

*Ralph C. Abele, President
Harold A. Pflug, Vice-president
Wilbur A. Schmidt, Rec. Secretary
Kenneth Oetzel, Treasurer
Chas. A. Ittel
Hildegard Leonhardt (Mrs. R. C.)
Roy Timm
Reinhard Krause
O. P. Schroerlueke, Executive Secretary.*

Department Superintendents

*Devotional Life, Harold A. Pflug
Missionary Education, Mrs. A. E. Reiss
Fellowship-Recreation, Reinhard Krause
Life Work Guidance, Chas. A. Ittel
Social Service, Hildegard Leonhardt
Intermediate, Emma Schwesig
College Student, Waldo Berlekamp.*

March 1, 1934.

Total expenditures, \$3,876.68.

REPORT OF THE FEDERATED CHARITIES

By the grace of God we have weathered the storm of the past year. We still are what we are "a haven of rest for the old and weary and the heavy laden, a house of refuge for the orphans and forsaken children, a temple of healing for the sick and the maimed."

In spite of the depression and financial reverses our institutions were able to carry on and, looking over the field of activity, we wonder at the sight we behold and are compelled to believe the story of the loaves and fishes; where with little, and the blessing of God added to the little, the multitudes were fed. In computing the amounts given by the church at large for the care of charity patients in our 10 hospitals we find that we received the sum of about \$10,000.00 per annum; in adding the charity given by these 10 hospitals we find that the sum total amounts to \$132,000 per annum, which sum must be taken out of the earnings of these institutions. I repeat, it is a wonder before our eyes that we are able to come to the rescue of so many deserving and worthy people who are brought to our doors. The orphanages and the old folks' homes of course are almost totally sustained by the free will gifts of our Evangelical people, and when we say that we are proud of our people we mean it, because in spite of their own handicaps and losses they have supported our benevolent institutions in a splendid way. Praise to the Lord, who makes hearts and hands willing; thanks to the givers of these benevolences.

After an interim of two years the Board of Directors, in its spring meeting, has decided to call a convention of the Federated Charities to Chicago on October 3rd and 4th. A very profitable program has been arranged for this meeting. Invitations will be sent out, not only to the members of the Federation but to all institutions of charity within the realm of our church, emphasizing the fact that "in unity there is strength." We look forward with a great deal of joyous anticipation to the joining to our ranks the institutions of the Reformed churches of America, and we will be glad to welcome them to Chicago at our meeting.

Yours for service,

G. A. Kienle, President of the Federated Charities.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS

In accordance with a resolution of the 1933 General Conference, the Commission on Christianity and Social Problems is now composed of the chairman and executive secretary of the Board of Religious Education, one representative of the Department of Sociology of Elmhurst College, one representative of the Department of Social Ethics of Eden Seminary and one pastor (chosen by the Board of Directors of the Synod). The members are: Professor A. Wehrli, Mr. A. R. Keppel, Professor Th. Mueller, Professor Wm. J. Halfter and Rev. A. F. Alberswerth.

The General Conference resolution also specified that the executive secretaries of the Evangelical Brotherhood, the Evangelical Women's Union and the Evangelical League and the editors of the Evangelical Herald and Der Friedensbote serve as advisory members. These are: Rev. H. L. Streich, Rev. O. P. Schroerluke, Dr. J. H. Horstmann and Rev. Otto Press.

The new commission held its first meeting on January 18, 1934. A. F. Alberswerth was elected chairman and Wm. J. Halfter secretary. Dr. J. H. Horstmann was asked to serve as treasurer temporarily.

The General Conference resolution further stated, that the new commission was to choose seven corresponding members. These are selected, but all the acceptances have not been returned thus far and so these names cannot be submitted at this time.

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE FEDERATED CHARITIES

Hospital	Property	Indebtedness	Rate	Current Expense	Payroll	Nursing	Day Cost	Outstanding Accounts	Donations
									Evang. Others
Marshalltown	\$300,000.00	\$150,000.00	5%	\$ 65,423.16	\$ 24,494.13	20,488	\$3.25	\$76,000.00	\$ 171.35 \$ 106.03
Milwaukee	421,197.51	119,350.00	5-6%	164,581.50	76,977.49	23,041	4.68	24,422.00	500.00 1,120.00
Chicago	768,888.34	250,000.00	6%	178,991.61	104,107.22	42,513	4.98	31,759.93	
Detroit	900,000.00	174,500.00	5-6%	100,554.40	49,920.94	17,844	5.63	11,500.00	436.50 5,940.00
Evansville	401,650.70	58,717.94	5-6%	163,353.03	63,556.05	28,154	5.06	18,313.42	1,000.00 1,000.00
St. Louis	890,789.68	406,460.00	5-5 1/2	216,424.19	43,113.86	40,174	5.38	10,380.78	2,651.36 834.00
Cleveland				89,533.74		18,988	5.42		
Faribault	225,000.00	35,506.29	4%	46,065.25	19,062.00	13,380	3.44	12,927.73	354.82 330.90
Homes									
Marthasville	150,000.00			17,179.67	7,391.42	42,445	.53	1,500.00	3,323.29 80.00
St. Charles	280,000.00	47,300.00	5%	32,213.17	11,538.15	43,867	.73	6,000.00	4,019.29
St. Paul	53,000.00	12,000.00		12,182.66	3,777.99	12,780	.93		622.57 2,061.87
Belleville	35,000.00			5,296.53	1,279.00		1.30		
Forks	65,000.00			13,750.00	4,295.00		1.00		
Dorseyville	96,000.00	13,000.00	5%	5,175.32	828.75				
St. Louis	262,000.00			19,760.76	5,243.96		.65		
Detroit									
Bensenville	108,000.00	6%		35,031.84	10,552.85	47,245	.74	30,000.00	
Chicago	917,872.00	863,990.00	6%	37,080.00	10,045.00	28,200	.50		
Hoyleton	75,550.00			13,083.13	5,328.00				
St. Charles Rock Rd.				35,351.47	9,925.00	60,225	.62		14,837.65 2,221.88
Caroline Mission	25,000.00	2,500.00		14,000.00	8,070.00				

Our first task was to review the work of the previous commission. Rev. Horstmann had handsomely facilitated this review by submitting a written statement to the members prior to the meeting. The aims of the previous commission were accepted. They may be summarized as follows:

1. To gather complete, accurate and unprejudiced information concerning economic conditions in this country and in other lands, and concerning all events or movements which involve moral principles or have a bearing upon the welfare of the people.
2. To study this information in the light of the spirit and the letter of the teachings of Christ and with a view to discover what needs to be done to relieve and remove social wrongs and to Christianize the present social order.
3. To keep in touch with respective commissions of the Federal Council and similar groups in other denominations, as well as with any other Christian agencies aiming at improving and promoting the welfare of the people.
4. To keep the people in our churches informed concerning the above and kindred subjects through timely popular articles and discussions in our periodicals and otherwise.

A general discussion of the work of the commission revealed the opinion that the field of immediate interest was the political-economic. The program to be adopted finally by the commissions, it was hoped, would be reconstructive of society, in accordance with the principles of Jesus, and not simply ameliorative. The commission recognized the danger of dealing with particular reforms, for the result might be that the committee would fail to see the urgent need of a drastic reshaping of our society to give to all men the opportunity for a full life. The commission, for example, while perhaps being authorized by its members to enter the fight as proponents of the thirty or forty hour week, must not allow that reform to obscure the fact that it is not the fundamental means for attaining a Christian order. On the other hand, concrete situations clarify problems, open the field of action in specific ways to the clergy and laity and, hence, particular courses must be furthered at every opportunity.

The sphere of activity of the corresponding members is to assist in the shaping of the policies of the commission, to engage in research, and to inform the commission of problems in their areas. It is hoped that the corresponding members will promote the work of the commission through stimulation of the clergy and laity to definite courses of study and action. The corresponding members, it is hoped, furthermore, will be watchful of keeping the commission on the initiative in social action and not allow the commission to become only an informative body. These members are not to be mere adjuncts of the commission but motivators of policies and of investigation. Upon the alertness of these members, as well as that of the official and advisory members, the effectiveness of the commission devolves.

The Commission on Christianity and Social Problems

*A. F. Alberswerth, Chairman
Wm. J. Halfter, Secretary*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EVANGELISM

The personnel of the Committee on Evangelism, elected and appointed for the present quadrennium by the General Council on Feb. 7th, of this year, consisting of Rev. Clyde Koehler, Rev. John H. Buescher, Mr. John G. Abele and Rev. Fred C. Schweinfurth, including Rev. R. C. Abele, Mr. W. H. Witthaus and Mrs. R. Mernitz, as ex-officio members, met on the evening of Feb. 7th for purposes of reorganization and to plan the

work of the committee for the years before us. The re-organization of the committee resulted as follows: Rev. Fred C. Schweinfurth, Chairman, Rev. Clyde Koehler, Secretary.

A program entitled: "On with the Spiritual Advance" was formulated and published (See Evangelical Herald, March 1st). This program outlined in detail possible evangelistic efforts on the part of local churches from the beginning of Lent, leading up to Pentecost. The hope was, and is again expressed, that an ever increasing number of pastors and churches will make diligent use of such programs, stressing the need of personal witnessing and sharing of the gospel of Christ with the unchurched and so assist in winning America to Christ.

One of the movements recently projected by the Federal Council Commission on Evangelism, is a "Youth for Christ" crusade. This to our knowledge is the only youth movement of a definitely religious nature now sweeping through our land and many communities have already found new religious power and untold spiritual results in promoting and conducting such youth crusades. Our committee urges pastors and churches, our National Y. P. L., federations, and local youth societies to inaugurate such a youth crusade during this year, preferably beginning with October, or to cooperate with such interdenominational youth organizations contemplating, or at present conducting, such a movement in local communities. Information with regard to the set-up and specific objectives of the "Youth for Christ" movement will be published soon.

The committee also hopes to secure the cooperation of the National Brotherhood in promoting a "Men for Christ" crusade during January, 1935. This is to be a simultaneous movement on a national scale, featuring mid-winter retreats for men, services of inspiration, study classes on Evangelism, and personal work in visitation evangelistic endeavor. Such a crusade of "Men for Christ" will bring a new spiritual power to the Church of Christ, particularly our own Evangelical Church, and so enable the Church to challenge more courageously the Kingdom-opposing forces of evil now rampant in our world.

The committee, furthermore, is looking forward to a merger with the Committee on Evangelism of the Reformed Church, since we believe that here is one function of the two Churches, the primary function of both, in which such a merger can be most easily consummated.

One last appeal is, that our pastors, churches, pastors' circles, regional conferences, conventions, district conferences, in fact the whole Church, give the subject and work of evangelism a place in their thinking and upon their programs, so that the Synodical constituency may become more conscious of the need and task of evangelization and give itself more aggressively to the fulfillment of the Great Commission of the Christ.

Committee on Evangelism

Rev. John H. Buescher,

Rev. Clyde Koehler, Secretary

Mr. John G. Abele

Rev. R. C. Abele

Mr. W. H. Withaus

Mrs. R. Mernitz

Rev. Fred C. Schweinfurth, Chairman

REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Due to the financial stringency the work of the Historical Commission during the fiscal year of 1933 practically came to a standstill. We were barely able to take care of the routine business. Occasionally our attention is directed to the existence of some rare document which should be in our possession, or concerning which we should have some record. May we again urge pastors and laymen to help us to locate such fugitive materials. We would be especially grateful to receive *Festschriften*—new and old—and bound volumes of the Theological Magazine, Evangelical Herald and Friedensbote.

Respectfully,

*C. Schneider
Albert Muecke
Samuel Kruse*

Acts and Proceedings

of the

JOINT SESSION

of

*The General Conference of the
Evangelical Synod of N. A.*

and of

*The General Synod of the
Reformed Church in the U. S.*



JUNE 26th, 1934

7 P. M.

THE JOINT SESSION — TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 7 P. M.

Before the open door of the Zion Evangelical Church, corner of Branch and West 14th Street, Cleveland, Ohio, shortly before 7 p. m., the two long processions of delegates to the final General Convention of the Evangelical Synod and to the final meeting of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the U. S., walking two abreast and approaching from opposite directions, met one another.

The representatives of the Evangelical Synod of North America were led by President Paul Press and Dr. Louis W. Goebel, while those of the Reformed Church in the U. S. followed President Henry J. Christman and Dr. George W. Richards. As these two bodies met, each delegate from the Evangelical Synod stepped into place by the side of a delegate from the Reformed Church and, thus united, they together entered the commodious sanctuary amid the joyful peal of resounding church bells.

Dr. Paul Press, the President of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod presided over the meeting.

The Agenda submitted by the Joint Commission on Union, as presented by Dr. Louis W. Goebel, was unanimously adopted, as follows:

AGENDA OF THE JOINT SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
OF THE EVANGELICAL SYNOD OF NORTH AMERICA AND
THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE REFORMED CHURCH
IN THE UNITED STATES

June 26 — 7:00 P. M.

The Officers and the Commissions
on Union shall occupy the platform

Presiding Officer. President Paul Press

Devotional Service President Henry J. Christman

Hymn (Congregation standing)

O worship the King, all glorious above!
O gratefully sing His power and His love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
His chariots of wrath the deep thunder-clouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy power hath founded of old;
Hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;
And sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

O measureless Might! Ineffable Love!
While angels delight to hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall lisp to Thy praise.

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4: 1-16

Prayer (Congregation standing) Dr. J. C. Leonard

We praise thee, O God, for the record that when the Day of Pentecost was fully come, the disciples were all with one accord in one place, and we thank thee for the manifestation of the presence and power of the Holy Ghost in the assembly of believers. Our hearts are filled with joy this very moment, while we bow before the Mercy Seat, in the conscious experience that in this union of two great Christian communions the Holy Spirit has descended upon us in comfort and grace and power. We glory in the blessed precepts of the Master, in His prayer that all disciples should be one as He and the Father are One. We glory in our Master by whose invasion the whole world is to be conquered, by whose presence the nations are to be awed, by whose rapture all people are to be thrilled, and at whose throne the whole creation is to bow. May the knowledge of thy truth find its way into the souls of all our people, and may our feet walk in the highway of Him who said: "Thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying: 'this is the way, walk ye in it' when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."

Great and Gracious and Merciful Heavenly Father, in this happy church union we are passing within new portals into wider fields. Give to us unlimited confidence in that Divine guidance which opens up undimmed vision and gives attainment of the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. Be thou our Sovereign Guide. Be thou to us the Bread of Life. Be thou to us the Rock of our Salvation. Give us grace to move in thy ways and in the paths of thy commandments, and keep our eyes turned towards the rising sun of promise and assurance.

We desire, our Father, as we pass through this new portal into Church Union and out into wider fields, the blessing of the sweet melody in the gentle whisper in thy voice. We pray thee to give to our new union, the Evangelical and Reformed Church, the exuberance of Christian youth. Give to us the morning face, the morning courage, the morning vision—and also the joyous blessing of the evening calm that follows the day of successful service out in the Master's harvest-field. Evermore cause the standard of thy truth and wisdom to be displayed before our vision, and cause the brightness of this standard to illuminate our way. This day and hour put anew into our hearts love for the pure and the true and the beautiful and the good, and upon our lips the law of kindliness.

We beseech, O Lord, give to us in this new ecclesiastical relationship faith that soars to high certainty of accomplishment in the name of Jesus Christ, the beloved Son of God, the only Savior of all mankind, that so we may rise above the level of our own poor understanding. So direct us that everything else shall give place to enthusiastic passion to serve.

And by thy Spirit, O Holy Father, enable us to walk willingly in the comforting shadow of thy sacred, blessed presence, through riches of grace in Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

Agenda Submitted by the Joint Commission on Union

Report of Roll Clerks — Announcement of Quorum — Bar of the House

Reports of the Chairmen of the Committees on Union

Rev. Louis W. Goebel
Rev. George W. Richards

Ratification of the Union by Joint Resolution

Declaration of the Consummation of the Union by the President of each Church

Hymn (Congregation standing)

Now thank we all our God,
With hearts and hands and voices
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mother's arms,
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God,
The Father, now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The One Eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

Lord's Prayer Doxology — Benediction

The Roll Clerks, Rev. F. A. Meusch for the Evangelical Synod and Rev. A. R. Tosh for the General Synod of the Reformed Church reported the enrollment of the duly elected delegates to the joint meeting from each body. For the Evangelical Synod the enrollment was 65 ministers, 65 laymen representing 21 districts. For the Reformed Church the enrollment was 120 ministers; 93 elders, representing 56 of its 58 Classes. President Press accordingly declared a quorum present for the transaction of business.

The Bar of the House was defined as the main auditorium of the church.

The reports of the Chairmen of the Committees on Union were then presented. Dr. Louis W. Goebel reported for the Commission on Church Union of the Evangelical Synod of North America as follows:

**REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON CHURCH UNION
OF THE EVANGELICAL SYNOD OF NORTH AMERICA**

June 26, 1934

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

The General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States and the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America having now assembled in joint session in order to receive official and final

report of the action of each Church on the Plan of Union, according to the provision of Article XII, I beg leave to report for the Commission on Church Union that the Evangelical Synod of North America has regularly adopted the Plan of Union and the delegates of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America are prepared to declare by joint resolution that the union of the two churches is duly effected.

Respectfully submitted,

L. W. Goebel, Chairman.

Dr. George W. Richards presented the report from the General Synod of the Reformed Church, as follows:

**REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON CLOSER RELATIONS
AND CHURCH UNION OF THE REFORMED CHURCH
IN THE UNITED STATES**

June 26, 1934

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

the Evangelical Synod of North America and the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States have assembled in joint session in order to receive official and final report of the action of each Church on the Plan of Union, according to the provisions of Article XII, I beg leave to report for the Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union that the Reformed Church in the United States has regularly adopted the Plan of Union and the delegates of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States are prepared to declare by joint resolution that the union of the two Churches is duly effected.

Respectfully submitted,

George W. Richards, Chairman.

The foregoing reports having been adopted, the following Joint Resolution was then presented and ratified.

**JOINT RESOLUTION FOR THE CONSUMMATION
OF THE UNION**

To the Joint Session of the Evangelical Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America and the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the U. S.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

WHEREAS, the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America, by regular action of the Districts and the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America and of the General Synod and the Classes of the Reformed Church in the United States, have adopted the Plan of Union submitted to these bodies by the Commissions on Church Union,

BE IT RESOLVED, FIRST, that the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States and the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America, in joint session assembled this day, June 26, 7 P. M., 1934, in the city of Cleveland, Ohio, hereby declare that the Plan of Union has been legally adopted;

SECOND, that the union of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America is now effected under the name of "The Evangelical and Reformed Church";

THIRD, that the consummation of the union be formally pronounced by the President of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States and the President of the Evangelical Synod of North America, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost;

FOURTH, that, pending the devotional services, this Joint Session be declared adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, in the name of Joint Commission on Union.

George W. Richards

Louis W. Goebel, Chairmen

In accordance with the foregoing resolutions Presidents Christman and Press then declared the union formally and legally effected. Clasping hands, Dr. Christman said, in the words of the well-known hymn, "*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love*"; to which Dr. Press responded, "*The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above*."

The Joint Session closed with the devotional service as found in the Agenda.

At 8 P. M. the delegates, representatives and friends of the uniting churches partook of the Holy Communion together. Thus fittingly began the life and work of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. Former Presidents Press and Christman led in the worshipful Order of Service, specially prepared for the occasion.

The Communion sermon, based on 1 Cor. 10: 16, was preached by the Rev. Lee M. Erdman, D.D., pastor of St. Thomas' Church, Reading, Pa. The elements were distributed by pastors of the Evangelical and the Reformed Churches in Cleveland and vicinity.

The Communion Service reached its consummation in the rendition, by a great choir, numbering approximately 70 voices, of the festival Te Deum by Dudley Buck.

The Order of Service for the Holy Communion as used on this historic occasion, together with Dr. Erdman's sermon, is herewith included.

ORDER FOR THE HOLY COMMUNION

June 26 — 8:00 P. M.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, our heavenly Father, who by the blood of Thy dear Son hast consecrated for us a new and living way into the holiest of all; cleanse our minds, we beseech Thee, by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we, Thy redeemed people, drawing near unto Thee in this Holy Supper, with a true heart and undeviled conscience, in full assurance of faith, may offer unto Thee an acceptable sacrifice in righteousness, and worthily magnify Thy great and glorious name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Reading (Congregation standing)

Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that

God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread which I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us His flesh to eat? Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty: Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hades; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from whence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost: the Holy Catholic Church; the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of Sins; the Resurrection of the Body; and the Life Everlasting. Amen.

Prayer

O Holy Ghost, Spirit of the Father and the Son, who by Thy quickening energy hast raised us up to a new life in Christ Jesus, and dost in mercy to our infirmities condescend to dwell in our mortal bodies as Thy consecrated temples; bring forth in our hearts and lives, we beseech Thee, the fruits of love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, faith, meekness and temperance; that so walking in Thee with all holy obedience we may stand firm in the knowledge and love of the truth against the wiles of the Devil, overcome the world, and be glorified in the fellowship of the Father and the Son: to whom with Thee who art co-equal and co-eternal God, we ascribe all honor, thanksgiving and praise. Amen.

O God, merciful Father, vouchsafe unto us, we humbly beseech Thee, the continual help of Thy grace, that we may acknowledge and confess Thine incarnate Son as our true and only Lord and Saviour, and that receiving Him with childlike faith we may ever feed on His precious body and blood as the true meat and drink of our souls unto everlasting life. Amen.

Hymn (Congregation seated)

Break Thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
As Thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee, Lord;
My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word.

Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me,
As Thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall,
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.

Teach me to live, dear Lord, only for Thee,
As Thy disciples lived in Galilee;
Then, all my struggles o'er, then victory won,
I shall behold Thee, Lord, the Living One.

Sermon Rev. Lee M. Erdman
Offering (While the offering is received the minister shall read the following sentences from the Holy Scriptures:)

He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. As it is written, he hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth forever.

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will He pay him again.

I have shewed you all things, how that so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Exhortation

Dearly Beloved: Our blessed Saviour Jesus Christ instituted the Sacrament of the Holy Communion, that it might be the abiding memorial of His atoning death; the seal of His perpetual presence in the Church through the Holy Spirit; the mystical representation of the sacrifice of Himself on the cross; the pledge of His undying love to His people and the bond of His living union and fellowship with them to the end of time.

The celebration of the Lord's Supper has ever been regarded by the Church as the innermost sanctuary of the whole Christian worship. We have to do here, not with outward signs merely, but with heavenly realities which these signs represent. The Lord's Table can, therefore be rightly approached only by those who are of a devout, repentant and believing mind. This holy mystery is not for the irreverent or indifferent.

If any of you, then, are conscious that you are the willing servants of sin, that you are without true repentance and faith, we solemnly warn and admonish you that ye presume not to come to the Lord's Table. For those doing so, eat and drink judgment to themselves; not because they are sinners, but because they are impenitent; not because they are unworthy, but because they eat and drink unworthily, not discerning the Lord's body.

On the other hand, we cordially invite all to partake of this Sacrament who are truly grieved and penitent for their sins, who look to Jesus Christ for righteousness and salvation, who abide in the fellowship of His Church, and who desire to possess His Spirit and walk in His ways. To all such the compassionate Redeemer Himself says: Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Ye, then, who have earnestly searched your own hearts, and who are truly penitent and desire to forsake all sin and follow after Christian holiness, as required by the Word of God, approach with me now to the throne of grace and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

Confession of Sins (The minister and the congregation kneeling shall repeat the following confession:)

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a poor sinner, acknowledge and bewail my manifold sins and wickedness, which I

have from time to time committed against Thy divine Majesty by thought, word and deed, from unbelief, ingratitude, unfaithfulness, and want of brotherly love, which have marred my life, provoking against me most justly Thy wrath and indignation, in this world and in the world to come. I do earnestly repent, and am heartily sorry for these my transgressions, the remembrance of them is grievous unto me; their burden is intolerable. I have no other comfort or hope than Thy grace, which abounding above my guilt, and the precious merits of my Lord Jesus Christ. Longing after this grace I say: Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in Thy sight: and am no more worthy to be called Thy child; I come, however, at this time of grace to ask of Thee pardon and peace, new confidence toward Thee, and strength to lead a new and righteous life through Thy Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Then shall the minister rise and pronounce to the congregation, still kneeling, the following Declaration of Pardon:)

Upon this humble confession which you have made, as a Minister of our Lord Jesus Christ and by His authority, I declare unto you, who do truly repent and heartily believe in Jesus Christ and are sincerely determined to amend your sinful life, the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Congregation shall rise and remain standing.)

The Institution

Let us hear with reverent hearts the words of Christ instituting this Holy Supper.

The Lord Jesus, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take, eat, this is My body which is broken for you, this do in remembrance of Me.

After the same manner also, He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is the New Testament in My blood; this do ye as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.

Invocation

Praise, and honor, and glory be unto Thee, O Christ! The bread which we bless is the Communion of Thy holy body, and the cup which we bless is the Communion of Thy holy blood. O Thou everlasting Son of the Father, sanctify us by Thy Holy Spirit, and make us worthy partakers of Thy sacred body and blood, that we may be cleansed from sin and made one with all the members of Thy Church in heaven and on earth. Graciously hear anew the resolution of our hearts: Lord Jesus, for Thee we live, for Thee we suffer, for Thee we die, Thine will we be in life and death. Grant us, O Lord, eternal salvation.

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Agnus Dei (Sung by the congregation)

O Lamb of God who, bleeding
Upon the cross didst languish,
Nor scorn nor malice heeding,
So patient in Thine anguish,

On Thee our guilt was lying;
Thou saved'st us by dying:
Have mercy on us, Lord Jesus.

The Invitation

Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Thus our Lord invites all who truly repent and heartily believe, and vouchsafes to them His forgiveness and grace. Come, for all things are prepared. Taste and see how good the Lord is. Blessed are they who trust in Him.

The Communion (The communicants are to partake of the bread and the wine in unison with the celebrant when he says:)

The bread which we break, is the Communion of the body of Christ.

The cup of blessing which we bless, is the Communion of the blood of Christ.

The Blessing

May the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, keep and preserve you, each one, in body, soul, and spirit, unto everlasting life. Amen.

Prayer

O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good; for His loving-kindness endureth for ever.

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy Name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Almighty and everlasting God, we most heartily thank Thee, that Thou didst vouchsafe to strengthen us through this holy Sacrament. We praise Thee, that Thou dost assure us thereby of Thy grace in Jesus Christ. We rejoice that through this Sacrament our communion with Christ and all believers is strengthened, and that we have become heirs of Thine everlasting kingdom, by the merits of the death of Thy dear Son. We humbly beseech Thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us by the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may continue in this holy fellowship, and live and labor according to Thy holy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with Thee and the Holy Spirit, be all power, honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Te Deum (To be chanted by choir and congregation)

We praise Thee, O God.

We acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.

All the earth doth worship Thee, the Father everlasting.

To Thee all angels cry aloud; the heavens and all the powers therein.

To Thee cherubim and seraphim continually do cry:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth.

Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy glory.

The glorious company of the apostles praise Thee.

The godly fellowship of the prophets praise Thee.

The noble army of martyrs praise Thee.

The Holy Church, throughout all the world, doth acknowledge Thee,

The Father of an infinite majesty;

Thine adorable, true, and only Son;

Also, the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.

When Thou tookest upon Thee to deliver man, Thou didst humble Thyself to be born of a Virgin.
When Thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death, Thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.
We believe that Thou shalt come to be our judge.
We therefore pray Thee, help Thy servants, whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with Thy saints in glory everlasting.
O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thy heritage.
Govern them, and lift them up forever.
Day by day we magnify Thee;
And we worship Thy name ever, world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let Thy mercy be upon us, as our trust is in Thee.
O Lord, in Thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

Benediction

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make his face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Amen.

SERMON BY THE REV. LEE M. ERDMAN, D.D.

Sermon preached by the Rev. Lee M. Erdman, D.D., Reading Pa., at the Communion Service which followed the Joint Session of the General Conference of the Evangelical Synod of North America and the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, on Tuesday, June 26, 1934, at 7:00 P. M.

1 Cor. 10: 16, "*The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?*"

On this solemn, historic occasion when the desires of our hearts, long cherished, at length find consummation, it is meet and proper indeed that we should unite in the innermost sanctuary of worship, the celebration of the Holy Communion of the Lord's Supper. The unity which we desire above all else is the unity of the Spirit. The strength necessary for our tasks, we know full well, is not from below but from above. We trust not the arm of flesh, but rather those hands that were pierced for us on the cross and are extended in constant benediction to those that believe. If this is, as we think it shall be accounted, a memorable day in the history of American Christianity, how appropriate it is that we should quicken our hearts and minds by remembering all that is high and holy in our heritage. Remembering thus whence we have come, we will know also whither we are going. In this sacred feast of remembrance we are conscious of those who have gone before and by whom we are compassed about as a cloud of witnesses. Others have labored and we have entered into their labors. Fathers and mothers who first guided us in the faith, pastors and teachers who nurtured us in the word, missionaries and apostles who laid foundations in the wilderness mid peril, toil and pain, reformers who regained for us the simplicity of the gospel and assured us the privilege of personal relations with our Lord, confessors and martyrs of whom the world was not worthy, but chief among all, the first begotten of the dead who is king of saints and who for us died upon the bitter cross and who asked that we should do this in remembrance of Him—all these draw nigh in these sacred, quickening moments to cheer and strengthen us on our way.

And thus this sacrament of sacred memories brings to us spiritual food, the bread of life. "I am the bread of life." "This is the bread that

cometh down out of heaven that a man may eat thereof and not die." Men perish not primarily for lack of moral conviction which should move them to do those things which they know. And how shall the heart of man possess this certitude with its compulsions and its consolations. It is not the result of intellectual processes and philosophical speculation. Even George Santayana who follows theistic thought only afar off, describes the insufficiency of this method in words of haunting beauty:

O world, thou choosest not the better part!
It is not wisdom only to be wise,
And on the inward vision close the eyes,
But it is wisdom to believe the heart.

.....
And trust the soul's invincible surmise . . .
Our knowledge is a torch of smoky pine
That lights the pathway but one step ahead
Across a void of mystery and dread.
Bid, then, the tender light of faith to shine
By which alone the mortal heart is led
Unto the thinking of the thought divine.

But we know whence this faith has come and how it is begotten and nourished in our hearts. "Seeing it is God that said, Light shall shine out of darkness, who shined in our hearts, to give the light of knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

Yes, it is well to remind ourselves always, and especially in a time of uncertainty, of the testimony which our evangelical faith has borne to the gospel. We are saved by grace through faith. What man could not do God gave. The heinousness of sin, its reality and destructive power are revealed fully in the cross of Christ. And there also we behold the redemptive love of Him who spared not His only Son but delivered him up for us all. A broken body and shed blood pierces man's complacent idea of sin. No longer can he speak of it as mere error or good in the making which in some automatic way will be eradicated, as it was supposed, with the inevitable progress and development of the human race. We have heard less of this comfortable and superficial doctrine in recent years because side by side with the increase in intellectual and scientific attainments we have witnessed increase in the capacity to do evil. Science equips us with wondrous instruments but whether they shall be used for the healing of the nations or for their destruction depends upon that which is in the heart of man who possesses them. And have we not had glimpses, as it were, into the pit of hell as we have seen the increased power to destroy begotten of the insatiable greed and lust for power and fierce hatred of modern man. Yes, again out of the heart are the issues of life. And we turn with renewed confidence to him who alone cleanses our hearts of evil and prepares them to be the dwelling place of holy love. "In Him was life and his life was the light of men and as many as received him to them gave He the right to become the children of God." And thus as in faith we receive the Lord in our hearts the miracle of regeneration is renewed. We are brought into living fellowship with him. Old things pass away and all things become new. We are nurtured with living bread. How physical bread sustains mental processes no man knoweth because it involves the mysteries of the relationship between mind and matter. That there is much that passes understanding in the miracle of the new life we know full well, but this we know also with a certainty that is higher than all other forms of knowledge: as we remember his precepts to do them; as we remember his redemptive love finding its highest expression on the cross, we are quickened to new life and sustained in the same, participating through the miracle of grace in the

life of the son of God. The broken bread, received by faith is thus the seal of oneness, communion in the body of Christ.

But as we draw near to the Lord we inevitably draw nearer one to another. Communion with Christ in spirit and in truth inevitably begets union among believers for we find that we hold in common that which is most precious, one faith, one Lord, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all, and through all and in all. As the radii of a circle draw near to each other in proportion as they approach the center, so do we experience the unity of the Spirit with our fellow-believers as Christ becomes the center of affections and hopes. To the ancient Christians the loaf was a symbol of this unity of believers in the body of Christ which is the Church. In the account of the Lord's Supper in the Didache we read: "And concerning the broken bread: We thank Thee, our Father, for the life and knowledge which thou hast made known to us through Jesus, Thy servant; to Thee be the glory forever. Just as this broken bread was scattered over the hills and having been gathered into one, so let Thy Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into thy kingdom."

It is our solemn conviction today that in the uniting of our two branches of the church we are giving expression to the symbolism of the loaf. What was widely scattered and separate has been brought into one. And now our prayer is that unity may follow union; that every portion may be leavened by the Holy Spirit; that being receptive to the movements of the Spirit the hand of God may move mightily upon us and knead us into one. Only thus shall we be sufficient for the more difficult tasks that are before us. Only thus shall we have the degree of patience, of mutual understanding and forbearance, that willingness to compromise in unessentials which is necessary for the further uniting of the fabric of the two organizations. The mighty compulsion of keeping the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace must be upon us if we are to bear witness to the world that we are of the body of Christ and severally members one of another.

But there is another way in which we bear witness and that is by our works. This sacrament is not only a sacred feast of remembrance in which we are drawn nearer to our Lord and of brotherhood by which we are united the more closely one with the other in His body, but of renewed consecration to work the works of God while it is day. In one of the ancient prayers of the Communion office is this collect "And be pleased . . . graciously to receive at our hands this memorial of the blessed sacrifice of Thy son; in union with which we here offer and present unto Thee, O Lord, the reasonable sacrifice of our own persons, consecrating ourselves upon the altar of the Gospel, in soul and body, property and life to thy most blessed service and praise." The purpose of bread is to nourish life and sustain labor. But again we remember that it is broken bread. How significant. We who are many are gathered into one that we may know the one true God, again we separate going our several ways each to bear his testimony in his particular sphere. There are these two rhythmic movements the one centripetal and the other centrifugal. The one brings us together that we may be inspired and strengthened and refreshed; here we shall see visions into deeds and that the kingdoms of this world may become the Kingdom of the Lord and of His Christ.

But if we in turn are to be bread to those that feed on husks, we must be broken bread. The secret of the cross and the power of the cross must be ours. We must be ready and willing to spend and be spent, and with Paul say "Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and fill up, on my part, that which is lacking of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church." The secret of the cross is the secret of the saints. It is they who attain to joy through suffering; it is they who are removed to deepest compassion because they suffer in the

presence of the ignorant, the willful and the vicious; it is they who are moved to the heights of moral indignation as they feel the evil that men do to the innocent and the weak; it is they who pour out the last full measure of devotion, accounting all that the world holds dear but as refuse, that they may serve the brethren and bring men into living union with the Son of God.

In this day when many who ask for bread receive but a stone, when many loudly proclaim that the multiplying of physical bread, the production of material things in plenty will meet the needs of men, may we have grace unitedly to show men the more excellent way. May we ever guide them to the living Lord of Life who is the true bread which cometh down from heaven, that bread which was broken for us. And as we receive it in faith we are able to bring something of heaven into the world despite its heartbreak and its sin.

"And He shall see of the travail of His soul and be satisfied."

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

First Meeting

of the

*General Synod of the Evangelical
and Reformed Church*



CLEVELAND, OHIO

June 27, 1934

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH

Wednesday Morning, June 27, 1934

The General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church met in First Session on June 27, 1934, at 9 A. M. in the Zion Evangelical Church, Cleveland, Ohio, according to the provisions of the adopted Plan of Union.

The opening service, as found on page 4 of the printed Agenda for the General Synod was followed.

Dr. J. H. Horstmann presented the Agenda for the first meeting of the Synod as submitted by the Joint Commission. It was on motion adopted.

AGENDA OF THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH

June 27 — 9:00 A. M.

Hallelujah Chorus: Handel's Messiah . . . Choir of Zion Evang. Church
Devotional Service Rev. Frederick Frankenfeld
Scripture Reading: John 17

Prayer

Almighty God, who by Thy Holy Spirit dost abide in the whole company of the faithful; Graciously regard, we beseech Thee, Thy servants gathered before Thee at this time, in the supreme council of this Church. Shed down upon us heavenly wisdom and grace; enlighten us with true knowledge of Thy Word; inspire us with a pure zeal for Thy glory; and so order all our doings through Thy good Spirit that unity and peace may prevail among us; that truth and righteousness may flow forth from us; and that, by our endeavors, all Thy ministers and congregations may be established and comforted.

Let brotherly love prevail, and in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than himself; save us from all uncharitable judging and rash speaking. Let the peace of God rule in our hearts, and the law of kindness dwell upon our lips; and of Thy great mercy vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, so to direct, sanctify, and govern us that the Gospel of Christ may be truly preached, devoutly received, and heartily obeyed, in all places, to the breaking down of the kingdom of sin and Satan; till at length the whole flock of Thy dispersed sheep being gathered into Thy fold, under the one Bishop and Shepherd of our souls, shall become partakers of everlasting life, through the merits and mediation of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom be glory in the Church, world without end. Amen.

Hymn

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled.

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath learned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

Agenda Submitted by the Joint Commission on Union
Temporary Organization — Election of Chairman — Secretary
Report of Roll Clerks — Announcement of Quorum
Appointment of Committee on Nominations
Report of Committee on Nominations
Election of Officers—President, Vice-president, Stated Clerks or Secretaries,
Treasurers, Corresponding Secretaries
Appointment of Tellers — Report of Tellers
Presentation of Officers — Presentation of Fraternal Delegates
Greetings from the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert
Bar of the House — Rules of Order
Appointment of Committees — Overtures, Finance, Executive, Charter and
New Constitution, Judicial
Reports of the Boards — Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Education and
Publication, Ministerial Relief, Benevolent Institutions
Other Business — Final Roll Call
Creed — Lord's Prayer — Doxology — Benediction
Adjournment

Dr. J. C. Leonard presented the report on Temporary Organization, nominating Dr. Louis W. Goebel as temporary Chairman. He briefly addressed the Synod. It was then declared legally in session. Dr. J. Rauch Stein was nominated as the temporary secretary and the report on Temporary Organization was then adopted.

The Roll Clerks reported the enrollment of representative delegates as follows:

For the Evangelical Synod, 98 delegates enrolled out of a possible 130.
For the Reformed Church, 160 delegates enrolled out of a possible 176.
A quorum was declared present for the transaction of business.

ROLL OF THE DELEGATES ATTENDING THE NEW GENERAL SYNOD FROM THE REFORMED CHURCH

Eastern Synod

EAST PENNSYLVANIA CLASSIS: Revs. Harvey I. Crow, Harry J. Ehret, L. V. Hetrick; Elders R. S. Hahn, Horace A. Butz, A. D. Wannemaker.

LEBANON CLASSIS: Revs. David Lockhart, K. O. Spessard; Elders W. U. Himmelberger, Hiram G. Newgard.

PHILADELPHIA CLASSIS: Revs. Paul S. Leinbach, John Lentz; Elders

A. Calvin Frantz, Milton Warner.

LANCASTER CLASSIS: Revs.-Daniel G. Glass, David Dunn, J. W. Meminger; Elders John A. Isele, J. Q. Truxal, W. L. Jacoby.

EAST SUSQUEHANNA CLASSIS: Revs. A. Augustus Welsh, Alvin F. Dietz, H. J. Naftzinger; Elder James Shrope.

WEST SUSQUEHANNA CLASSIS: Revs. I. S. Ditzler, G. A. F. Griesing, W. C. Rittenhouse; Elders E. E. Ardery, J. H. Eisenhauer, Howard F. Struble.

TOHICKON CLASSIS: Revs. Theo. C. Brown, Alfred N. Sayres; Elders Chas. A. Lippincott, Elmer E. Althouse.

GOSHENHOPPEN CLASSIS: Rev. Calvin M. DeLong; Elder E. S. Fretz.

LEHIGH CLASSIS: Revs. Geo. W. Richards, Paul R. Pontius; Elders Frank A. Arner, Walter F. Wink.

SCHUYLKILL CLASSIS: Revs. Eneas B. Messner, Adam E. Schellhase; Elder Thomas J. Koch.

WYOMING CLASSIS: Revs. Clark W. Heller, E. Franklin Faust; Elders William Koch, Fred Hess.

READING CLASSIS: Rev. Lee M. Erdman; Elder Charles S. Adams.

EASTERN HUNGARIAN CLASSIS: Rev. Geza Takaro.

NEW YORK CLASSIS: Rev. Carl H. Gramm; Elder John Christ.

GERMAN PHILADELPHIA CLASSIS: Rev. Otto M. Pioch; Elder John Schmidt.

Ohio Synod

CENTRAL OHIO CLASSIS: Revs. Fred W. Leich, John F. Winter; Elders Wm. A. Meyers, A. O. Young.

EAST OHIO CLASSIS: Revs. T. W. Hoernemann, Wm. F. Kissel, David A. Sellers; Elders John B. Mohler, Geo. W. Ziegler.

NORTHEAST OHIO CLASSIS: Rev. Albert L. Scherry; Elders Chas. A. Weiser, Frank Oesch.

NORTHWEST OHIO CLASSIS: Revs. C. T. Roeck, G. T. N. Beam; Elders W. G. Kuhlman, T. R. Groman.

SOUTHWEST OHIO CLASSIS: Revs. H. J. Christman, H. Grady Shoffner; Elder George B. Wetzel.

WEST OHIO CLASSIS: Rev. Harlan J. Miller; Elder W. A. Circle.

LAKESIDE HUNGARIAN CLASSIS: Rev. John B. Szeghey; Elder Gustave Kovacs.

Synod of the Northwest

SHEBOYGAN CLASSIS: Revs. Paul Grosshuesch, Paul Graeser; Elder Wm. Johanning.

MILWAUKEE CLASSIS: Rev. Richard Rettig; Elder F. H. Thiel.

MINNESOTA CLASSIS: Rev. Julius Berkenkamp; Elder Gustave Kiesau.

NEBRASKA CLASSIS: Rev. August Dumin.

URSINUS CLASSIS: Rev. John Neuenschwander; Elder C. Lohman.

SOUTH DAKOTA CLASSIS: Rev. Klaus J. Stuebbe.

PORTLAND-OREGON CLASSIS: Rev. Geo. F. Zinn; Elder Henry Raz.

MANITOBA CLASSIS: Rev. C. D. Maurer.

EUREKA CLASSIS: Elder Adolph Boschee.

NORTH DAKOTA CLASSIS: None.

EDMONTON CLASSIS: Rev. Chas. H. Reppert.

CALIFORNIA CLASSIS: Rev. E. F. Evemeyer.

Pittsburgh Synod

WESTMORELAND CLASSIS: Revs. J. Harvey Mickley, Frederick C. Seitz; Elders A. L. Leonard, D. J. Snyder.

CLARION CLASSIS: Rev. Joseph J. Gilbert; Elder L. D. Weber.

ST. PAUL'S CLASSIS: Rev. Paul J. Dundore; Elder J. Fred Christman.

SOMERSET CLASSIS: Revs. Geo. L. Roth, Frank D. Witmer; Elders Wilson Friedline, Josiah M. Lint.

ALLEGHENY CLASSIS: Rev. H. L. Kraus; Elder E. E. Wible.

CENTRAL HUNGARIAN CLASSIS: Rev. Barnabas Dienes; Elder Paul Teglassy.

WEST NEW YORK CLASSIS: Rev. Herman E. Schnatz; Elder Leonard Fischer.

Synod of the Potomac

ZION'S CLASSIS: Revs. J. Kern McKee, Oliver Hartman; Elder John L. Gerber.

MARYLAND CLASSIS: Revs. Guy P. Bready, Felix B. Peck; Elders Eugene A. Spessard, Henry M. Warrenfeltz.

MERCERSBURG CLASSIS: Rev. John C. Sanders; Elder William Hull.

VIRGINIA CLASSIS: Rev. Chas. E. Robb.

NORTH CAROLINA CLASSIS: Revs. A. Odell Leonard, Jacob Leonard, Banks J. Peeler; Elders Clarence Clapp, Edgar Whitener.

GETTYSBURG CLASSIS: Revs. Harry H. Hartman, Edwin M. Sando; Elders Andrew R. Brodbeck, Clinton S. Fickes.

CARLISLE CLASSIS: Rev. Chas. R. Hartman; Elder Samuel E. Basehore.

JUNIATA CLASSIS: Revs. J. Albert Eyler, O. H. Sensenig; Elders Daniel N. Beam, Percival Aurant.

BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CLASSIS: Rev. Julius F. Grauel; Elder Otto Schmidt.

Synod of the Mid-West

FORT WAYNE CLASSIS: Rev. Frank H. Rupnow; Elder Clifton E. Striker.

CHICAGO CLASSIS: Rev. Leonard S. Hegnauer; Elder Philip G. Goebel.

IOWA CLASSIS: Rev. Emanuel Jassman.

LINCOLN CLASSIS: Rev. Ernest Gander; Elder E. H. Long.

INDIANAPOLIS CLASSIS: Rev. E. G. Homrichausen; Elder Edward Dirks.

MISSOURI-KANSAS CLASSIS: Rev. Luther L. Hassenpflug; Elder William Finklang.

KENTUCKY CLASSIS: Rev. H. W. Haberkamp; Elder Philip Gagel.

ZION'S HUNGARIAN CLASSIS: Rev. Julius M. Hanko; Elder Gedeon Tukacs.

Advisory Members

The following is a list of those attending the New General Synod from the Reformed Church, in addition to those already listed in the Minutes of the Special Meeting on pages 11 to 13.

EASTERN SYNOD: Revs. J. Rauch Stein, Howard A. Althouse, A. W. Klingner, Geza Takaro, Fred D. Wentzel; Elders Martin Carle, John G. Fritchey, G. W. Hartman, Howard S. Welker.

SYNOD OF THE NORTHWEST: Revs. P. H. Graeser, A. R. VonGruenigen.

PITTSBURGH SYNOD: Revs. Harvey W. Black, M. N. George*, Albert A. Meussling, J. H. String; Elder Fred P. Miller.

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC: Revs. J. Stewart Hartmann, Horace R. Lequear, Allan S. Meck, Paul D. Yoder; Elders Chas. B. Bishop, Harry Brindle, George M. Crider.

*Occupied the seat of the primarius for the afternoon session.

**DELEGATES TO THE GENERAL SYNOD FROM THE
EVANGELICAL SYNOD**

CLERGY

Atlantic District

1. F. C. Rueggeberg, Pres., 2526 W. Lombard St., Baltimore, Md.
2. Chas. Enders, 1920 G St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

California District

3. Carl Saenger, Pres., 432 Cleveland St., Woodland, Cal.

Colorado District

4. G. A. Schmidt, 1261 Pennsylvania St., Denver, Colo.

Indiana District

5. Paul M. Schroeder, Pres., 33 W. Virginia St., Evansville, Ind.
6. F. R. Daries, 3610 Guilford Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.
7. Wm. Mehl, 2026 Tyler Lane, Louisville, Ky.
8. A. E. Klick, 633 E. Market St., Louisville, Ky.
9. G. W. Grauer, 106 W. McMicken Ave., Cincinnati, O.
10. F. A. Meusch, B. of D., 222 E. Spring St., New Albany, Ind.

Iowa District

11. Theo. A. Thomas, Pres., Tripoli, Iowa.
12. E. Seybold, Ackley, Iowa.
13. Theo. F. Schumacher, 323 N. Washington St., Kahoka, Mo.
14. A. H. Bisping, 1020 Exchange St., Keokuk, Iowa.

Kansas District

15. H. Becker, Pres., 720 Nebraska Ave., Kansas City, Kan.
16. R. F. Richter, Ellinwood, Kan.

Michigan District

17. J. Wulfmann, Pres., 34 S. Wilson Blvd., Mt. Clemens, Mich.
18. Theo. Schmale, 432 S. 4th Ave., Ann Arbor, Mich.
19. Theo. Eisen, 609 Sycamore St., Niles, Mich.
20. R. C. Stanger 2270 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, Mich.

Minnesota District

21. J. M. Munz, Pres., Hebron, N. Dak.
22. Erwin R. Koch, 1365 N. Hamline Ave., St. Paul, Minn.
23. Otto A. Muecke, 400 S. Second St., LeSueur, Minn.
24. Wm. Riemann, 2307 24th Ave., N., Minneapolis, Minn.

Missouri District

25. O. Kienker, Pres., 8404 Halls Ferry Road, St. Louis, Mo.
26. Paul Press, B. of D., 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
27. Prof. S. D. Press, 475 E. Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves, Mo.
28. Prof. F. A. Goetsch, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
29. Prof. A. Wehrli, 465 Park Road, Webster Groves, Mo
30. A. Alberswerth, 2613 Potomac St., St. Louis, Mo.

Nebraska District

31. F. L. Rodenbeck, Pres., 1314 F. St., Lincoln, Neb.
32. J. H. Steger, Columbus, Neb.

New York District

33. Paul Langhorst, Pres., 35 E. Parade Circle, Buffalo, N. Y.
34. Robert H. Keller, 591 N. Oak St., Buffalo, N. Y.
35. R. Vieweg, 161 Dewitt Ave., Elmira, N. Y.

North Illinois District

36. Arno A. Zimmermann, Pres., Box 406, Pekin, Ill.
37. L. W. Goebel, 2135 N. Sawyer Ave., Chicago, Ill.
38. Dr. H. J. Schick, 7020 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.
39. Dr. T. Lehmann, Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Ill.
40. H. W. Dinkmeyer, 4242 N. Paulina St., Chicago, Ill.
41. A. F. Dexheimer, 5049 Gunnison St., Chicago, Ill.

Ohio District

42. H. E. Pheiffer, Pres., 804 W. Jefferson St., Sandusky, O.
43. E. Irion, 423 Third St., Elyria, O.
44. Theo. Schlundt, 405 Wooster Ave., Dover, O.
45. J. E. Digel, 121 Tremont Ave., S. E., Massillon, O.

Pacific-Northwest District

46. Chas. Warber, Pres., 3201 Wetmore Ave., Everett, Wash.

Pennsylvania District

47. J. R. C. Haas, Pres., 3739 Wood St., Wheeling, W. Va.
48. Wm. J. Hausmann, 41 22nd St., Wheeling, W. Va.
49. Louis Schweckhardt, 1329 S. Carrollton Ave., New Orleans, La.

South Illinois District

50. H. J. Bredehoeft, Pres., 907 N. Second St., Edwardsville, Ill.
51. Robert Kofer, Alhambra, Ill.
52. H. H. Wintermeyer, 2103 Cleveland Blvd., Granite City, Ill.
53. C. H. Kluge, Nashville, Ill.
54. O. W. Heggemeier, 522 E. 8th St., Alton, Ill.

Texas District

55. Robert Mohr, Pres., P. O. Box 126, Coupland, Tex.
56. D. Baltzer, 3410 Austin St., Houston, Tex.
57. C. Wolff, 627 S. Eighth St., Waco, Tex.

West Missouri District

58. J. C. Bierbaum, Pres., California, Mo.
59. F. C. Klick, B. of D., 814 Faraon St., St. Joseph, Mo.

Wisconsin District

60. W. H. Schlinkmann, Pres., 1214 N. 13th St., Milwaukee, Wis.
61. Paul C. Kehle, 335 Scott St., Ripon, Wis.
62. J. Irion, 243 Parkway, Oshkosh, Wis.
63. M. M. Schmidt, 106 Poplar St., Merrill, Wis.
64. Dr. H. Niefer, 812 E. Russell Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

India Mission District

65. T. C. Seybold, Blue Springs, Mo.

Those Attending Conference without Vote

CLERGY

- John L. Ernst, Ph.D., 3975 Concord Ave., Detroit, Mich.
Theo. Haefele, 4138 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis, Mo.
Wm. Grotfeld, 1110 Grove St., Downers Grove, Ill.
Ralph C. Abele, 4916 Mardel Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
G. A. Kienle, 917 W. Garfield Blvd., Chicago, Ill.
Prof. C. E. Schneider, 129 Bompert Ave., Webster Groves, Mo.
J. H. Horstmann, D.D., 1724 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
Otto Press, 1724 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
Fred E. McQueen, 1724 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
Paul A. Menzel, D.D., 2951 Tilden St., Washington, D. C.

H. Kamphausen, D.D., 1956 West Blvd., Cleveland, O.
J. J. Braun, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
T. C. Braun, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
H. L. Streich, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
O. P. Schroerluke, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
H. P. Vieth, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

LAITY

Atlantic District

1. Henry W. Schultheis, 3721 Edmonson Ave., Baltimore, Md.
2. F. W. Mankey, 833 Third Ave., Williamsport, Pa.

California District

3. Frank Jessen, Box 94, R. R. 2, Petaluma, Cal.

Colorado District

4. S. G. Becker, 1777 Ivanhoe St., Denver, Colo.

Indiana District

5. Henry Goebel, 600 Adams Ave., Evansville, Ind.
6. Louis Brandt, 1616 Pleasant Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.
7. Fred Diehl, 4301 River Park Drive, Louisville, Ky.
8. J. C. Fischer, B. of D., 723 E. Blackford Ave., Evansville, Ind.
9. Walter Becker, Tell City, Ind.
10. Erwin Kraemer, 311 Oregon St., Cincinnati, O.

Iowa District

11. Emil Brinkmeyer, Hubbard, Ia.
12. Wm. H. Witte, Lowden, Ia.
13. Fred W. Rasche, 1700 Orchard St., Burlington, Ia.
14. Henry C. Bode, 1526 Main St., Keokuk, Ia.

Kansas District

15. Henry Kamp, 1308 West 25th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.
16. John Abele, Wamego, Kan.

Michigan District

17. Geo. Bartling, 1795 Canton St., Detroit, Mich.
18. W. C. Westphal, 14317 Avington, Detroit, Mich.
19. Theo. Koerner, 749 Pallister Ave., Detroit, Mich.
20. Chas. Tonn., 1407 Wabash St., Michigan City, Ind.

Minnesota District

21. Phil. Justus, 1451 Summit Ave., St. Paul, Minn.
22. Fred Warber, 854 Security Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.
23. Arnold Hoof, 219 S. 6th St., Minneapolis, Minn.
24. Albert Kelm, R. R., Faribault, Minn.

Missouri District

25. John W. Mueller, B. of D., Paul Brown Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.
26. F. A. Keck, B. of D., 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
27. John F. Peters, 86 Arundel Pl., St. Louis, Mo.
28. Mrs. Ida Pauley, 7323 Maryland Ave., University City, Mo.
29. O. C. Grueninger, 5332 Tholozan Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
30. A. H. Steinbeck, Union, Mo.

Nebraska District

31. Fred Ress, 3218 S. 40th St., Lincoln, Neb.
32. August Brauer, 2640 S. 11th St., Lincoln, Neb.

New York District

33. William Bender, 463 Parkside Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.
34. Edward Werle, 578 Park Ave., Meadville, Pa.
35. Henry Albrecht, 243 Denver St., Rochester, N. Y.

North Illinois District

36. E. W. Schumacher, 2043 Augusta Blvd., Chicago, Ill.
37. Dr. C. C. Busch, 409 Robeson Bldg., Champaign, Ill.
38. Dr. E. H. Hohman, 7133 Yale Ave., Chicago, Ill.
39. W. D. Bobbin, 3423 Parker Ave., Chicago, Ill.
40. George Deppert, 1212 Caroline St., Pekin, Ill.
41. A. C. Dittmann, 1436 Foster Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Ohio District

42. Jacob Haller, 2025 W. 25th St., Cleveland, O.
43. Wm. C. Hazlebeck, 926 Gay St., Portsmouth, O.
44. E. G. Trautman, 531 E. Desher Ave., Columbus, O.
45. Carl D. Fischer, Jr., c/o Wapakoneta Machine Co., Wapakoneta, O.

Pacific Northwest District

46. Mrs. Edw. A. Mayer, 1616 S. E. Nehalem St., Portland, Ore.

Pennsylvania District

47. L. E. Matz, Woodsfield, O.
48. Ernest Lache, 76 Edison St., Mt. Troy, N. S., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Southern District

49. Joseph Staba, 617 Webster St., New Orleans, La.

South Illinois District

50. W. C. Heyl, Waterloo, Ill.
51. F. G. Rapp, Columbia, Ill.
52. H. W. Bauer, Alton, Ill.
53. F. T. Hotz, Hoyleton, Ill.
54. E. W. Schmallenberger, Belleville, Ill.

Texas District

55. A. R. Scheef, R. R. 1, Marlin, Tex.
56. R. C. Malitz, Jr., 1503 Milby St., Houston, Tex.
57. H. F. Pochyla, 1214 N. 18th St., Waco, Tex.

West Missouri District

58. L. Bahrenburg, Sedalia, Mo.
59. Wm. Buschmeyer, Boonville, Mo.

Wisconsin District

60. H. E. Schowalter, 1313 N. 46th St., Milwaukee, Wis.
61. O. Wiechering, 139 Evans St., Oshkosh, Wis.
62. Robert Wendt, Menomonee Falls, Wis.
63. Wm. Andressohn, 2119 E. Trowbridge, Milwaukee, Wis.
64. Wm. Quandt, 3926a N. 16th St., Milwaukee, Wis.

India Mission District

65. Rev. Wm. Baur, c/o Mr. Fred Axthelm, 648 Forest Ave., Webster Groves, Mo.

The Bar of the House was defined as the pews of the church on the upper side of the third pillar.

On motion the Committee to Expedite Business, as proposed yesterday, was unanimously constituted the Committee on Nominations as follows:

For the *Reformed Church*: Revs. Paul J. Dundore, Paul S. Leinbach, Paul R. Pontius, August Dumin, Henry J. Christman; Elders J. Q. Truxal, Edward Dirks and A. L. Leonard.

For the *Evangelical Church*: Revs. Paul Schroeder, F. C. Rueggeberg, Robert Kofer, D. Baltzer; Laymen H. W. Bauer, Henry Albrecht, E. H. Hohman, O. C. Grueninger.

The Nominating Committee later reported on ad-interim officers as follows:

President—Rev. Dr. George W. Richards, Lancaster, Pa.
First Vice-President—Rev. Louis W. Goebel, Chicago, Ill.
Second Vice-President—Judge D. J. Snyder, Greensburg, Pa.
Third Vice-President—Mr. J. C. Fischer, Evansville, Ind.
Stated Clerk—Rev. Dr. J. Rauch Stein, Philadelphia, Pa.
Associate Stated Clerk—Rev. F. A. Meusch, New Albany, Ind.
Treasurer—Mr. F. A. Keck, St. Louis, Mo.
Associate Treasurer—Mr. Milton Warner, Philadelphia, Pa.

On motion the report was adopted, and the officers as named were declared elected.

Dr. Geo. W. Richards and Rev. Louis W. Goebel briefly addressed the Synod. The elected officers were then presented in order.

Telegrams of fraternal greetings were read from Dr. A. S. Bevan of the Federal Council; from Drs. J. Ross Stevenson and Lewis S. Mudge of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. and from Dr. Geo. Wm. Brown and Eric M. North of the American Bible Society.

Brief congratulatory messages were given by the Rev. F. Wegner, representing the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; by Rev. W. W. T. Duncan, representing the Methodist Episcopal Church; by Dr. William E. Gilroy, representing the Congregational and Christian Churches and by Dr. Harold C. Phillips, representing the Northern Baptist Convention.

Letters of greeting were read, from Rev. Wm. C. Munds, representing Bishop Rogers of the Episcopal Church; from the widow and family of the late Dr. C. W. Locher and from Rev. Theo. C. Braun, representing the Lone Star E. L. T. S.

Greetings from the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America were given personally by Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert. He was later requested to submit his timely address for permanent record.

ADDRESS OF REV. SAMUEL McCREA CAVERT, D.D.

General Secretary of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ
in America

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

For both personal and official reasons it is a great joy to me to be present on this historic occasion and to share in the ceremony that marks the union of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America. It is a personal joy because I have many honored colleagues in both these bodies, men whose friendship has become precious to me. From an official standpoint, my coming here to represent the Federal Council of Churches is one of the happiest privileges I have ever had. The occasion has, however, a significance far transcending anyone's personal interest, any organizational or even the interests of the two great denominations which are most immediately concerned. It has a profound meaning for American Protestantism as a whole.

This union is significant for our church life in its entirety because it is the best expression to date of the new era of *integration* upon which Protestantism has entered in this country. That such an integration has

definitely begun is no longer open to question. For nearly four hundred years following the Reformation Protestantism was passing through a stage of ever increasing division in its organization. This was the price that had to be paid for the glorious blessing of spiritual freedom that the Reformation brought. Now, however, we are entering upon an epoch in which, with no loss of liberty, a new unity is beginning to be achieved.

That such an era has arrived is evidenced by the number of unions that have already taken place. The progress is much greater than the average Christian realizes. This union of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America is the *eleventh* that has taken place in our country within less than three decades. Perhaps it is worth while to recall what these unions have been, even though not all of them have had pronounced significance. In 1906 the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church united. In 1911 the Northern Baptist Convention and the Free Baptist Churches became one. In 1917 three Lutheran groups came together in the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America; in 1918 three other Lutheran bodies formed the United Lutheran Church. 1920 saw the merger of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. and the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church. In 1922 came the reunion of the Evangelical Association and the United Evangelicals. 1924 witnessed the merger of the Reformed Church in the U. S. and the Hungarian Reformed Church in America. The same year marked the union of the Congregational and the Evangelical Protestant Churches. In 1931 came the merger of the Congregational and the Christian Churches and also the formation of the American Lutheran Church out of three hitherto separate Lutheran Synods. You here today uniting to form "The Evangelical and Reformed Church" are being true to the new spirit of union that within this generation has begun to express itself in American Protestantism. You are in the vanguard—but you are not standing alone; you are a part of the goodly fellowship of those who refuse to be tied to the past and who know that the Spirit of God can work in the Church of the twentieth century to achieve unity as truly as in the 16th century to achieve liberty.

This new union, however, has a far-reaching significance that transcends that of these other unions of the twentieth century. And that for at least three reasons.

In the first place, in nearly all of these other cases the uniting bodies belonged to the same denominational family. The only exceptions were the two cases in which the Congregationalists were involved; and even in these two exceptional cases the other denominations were virtually identical with the Congregationalists in polity. *But the present merger witnesses a blending, at least to a certain extent, of two great historic streams that are as old as Protestantism itself.* For the Evangelical Synod contributes to this combination something of a Lutheran element along with the Reformed. Being itself an heir of the Prussian Union of more than a century ago in Germany, the Evangelical Synod has preserved both the Reformed and the Lutheran witness side by side, and now pours that rich stream into a new and greater channel.

For a second important reason, the formation of The Evangelical and Reformed Church is unique: *It is the first time in the history of our country when two uniting denominations not belonging to the same immediate family have been of approximately equal size and strength.* When one party to a merger greatly surpasses the other in size there is always the danger that the final result may be merely the absorption of the smaller body by the larger rather than a really new and creative entity. One could readily name certain mergers in which this has been the outcome. But in the case of the Reformed Church in the United States and

the Evangelical Syenod of North America both parties are such impressive personalities and so perfectly matched that we have every right to expect a union that will be pregnant with new life. From such a fruitful marriage there should come a new generation inheriting the insights and graces of both progenitors and thus producing a still richer spiritual type.

A third thing which sets this union in a class by itself is that *you have entered upon it in such a spirit of complete mutual trust and respect that you have not had to define all the formal terms of agreement in advance.* You have been willing to unite, and to work out the details of union afterwards in your united fellowship. You have become a single church without having drafted your constitution, without having set up a new doctrinal formula, without having decided how your various agencies are to be combined. You have not allowed any minor point of organization or of definition to obscure your unity of spirit and faith, or to become a barrier in your advance to a new expression of that unity. Your decision to *unite* and to trust to the future for the working out of the implications of the union sets a new precedent in the history of American churches.

Any thoughtful man who reflects on the future of Protestantism must earnestly hope that this union is prophetic of an ampler union still to be. He is bound to recognize that within the great central body of Evangelical Protestantism there are no differences great enough to divide those who hold a like precious faith in the one Father God revealed to us in our one Lord and Savior. He must acknowledge that while each major denomination has its own special treasures of truth and experience, there is a substantial equality among them. He cannot help seeing the evils of organized denominationalism—especially the competitive ministries and the jealous sectarian interests that divide many American communities. Why, then, should those who are one in their central faith and purpose, and separated only in the peripheral things remain longer apart? The only reason which I can see that is of consequence enough to keep any of us from union is the fear that through union we might lose our cherished Protestant principle of freedom. If such a fear were well-grounded, I should attach great weight to it, for I am not of those who for the sake of Christian unity would sacrifice Christian liberty. But surely we have seen in the experience which your two denominations have had that liberty and unity are not necessarily opposed but can be the two great foci of the Christian fellowship.

So those of us who do not belong to either of these denominations hail your union with gratitude and pray that it may bear fruit in furthering a still more comprehensive union among our Protestant forces. Taking the words which Longfellow applied to the ship of state we bid god-speed to the Evangelical and Reformed Church:

“Sail on, O union strong and great!
Humanity with all its fear, with all its hope of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate.
Sail on! Nor fear to breast the sea,
Our hopes, our fears are all with thee,
Our hopes, our fears, our prayers, our tears,
Are all with thee, Are all with thee!”

In developing the conditions which will one day make the larger union possible the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America should play a great and indispensable role. While not itself a direct agency of union it has for twenty-five years been creating among our Protestant bodies the sense of oneness and the spirit of mutual understanding and fellowship without which no significant union is possible. Moreover, the Council is bringing otherwise isolated denominations into

definite cooperation in an ever increasing range of common tasks. No one who compares the conditions that prevailed in American Protestantism twenty-five years ago when the Council came into being with the conditions of today can doubt that a noteworthy advance in the practice of unity has already been attained. If this process of increasing fellowship and cooperation can continue to gain in strength no one can set a limit to the possibilities of united action and even actual union on a large scale. Indeed, we may wake one day to discover that the unity for which we have prayed has really become such a vital reality that our problem is no longer to create unity but only to ratify in outward organization the inner unity that is already ours.

The Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America have from the very beginning of the Federal Council been foremost in its support. In various denominations there have been divided opinions about the Council, especially about its work in the field of the social outreach of Christianity; controversies have even arisen in certain denominations as to whether the Council should be maintained. It has not been so among you. Now as you enter upon your own union your influence in the Council and your support of it will be more important than ever. It will be a channel through which the inspiring spirit that has marked your relations to each other may exercise a beneficent influence on the great body of American Protestantism.

President Richards announced that the prevailing Rules of Order would be operative for this meeting.

Vice-President Goebel presided while Dr. Richards presented three sets of Resolutions prepared by the Commission on Church Union of both Communions as follows:

**RESOLUTIONS ON THE GOVERNMENT AND FUNCTIONING
OF THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH,
PENDING THE ADOPTION OF A CONSTITUTION**

**I. Resolutions on the Government of the Evangelical and
Reformed Church Until the Adoption of a New Constitution**

Resolved: First, That until the constitution of the Evangelical and Reformed Church is regularly adopted, Congregations, regional Conferences, Districts, Boards, Committees, and Commissions, Board of Directors and General Council hitherto belonging to the Evangelical Synod of North America shall be governed according to the provisions of the Plan of Union and the Constitution and By-Laws of the Evangelical Synod of North America;

Second, That until the constitution of the Evangelical and Reformed Church is regularly adopted, that Congregations, Classes, Districts, Synods, Boards, Committees, and Commissions hitherto belonging to the Reformed Church in the United States shall be governed by the provisions of the Plan of Union and the Constitution and By-Laws of the Reformed Church in the United States.

Respectfully submitted,

*Louis W. Goebel, Chairman
Com. of the Evangelical Synod*

*George W. Richards, Chairman
Com. of the Reformed Church in the U. S.*

These resolutions were forthwith adopted.

II. Resolutions Relating to the Conduct of the Work of the Evangelical and Reformed Church Until the Adoption of a Constitution

Resolved: First, That the membership of the Boards or Commissions of the two Churches that have united, representing the cause of Ministerial Relief, of Home Missions, of Foreign Missions, of Christian Education, of Publication, and other benevolent activities, shall be continued and shall constitute the Boards and Commissions of the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church until the next meeting of the General Synod;

Second, That these Boards or Commissions shall be instructed to enter into negotiations for consolidation as rapidly as the laws of the state, their charters, their constitutions, and their property rights will permit;

Third, That until a constitution is adopted, these Boards, Commissions, or Committees, shall be governed by the Plan of Union, their respective constitutions and by-laws of the Churches that have united;

Fourth, That the budgets of these Boards or Commissions shall be submitted by the General Synod to the congregations through Districts and Classes in the same way as before the union of the two Churches;

Fifth, That until the next meeting of the General Synod the same amount that was apportioned during the last year by each of the Churches that have united, shall be apportioned annually until the next regular meeting of the General Synod;

Sixth, That the contributions received from the congregations, societies, and individuals of the Districts and the Classes be paid to the respective treasurers who had charge of these funds before the union;

Seventh, That the General Synod determine the amount required for the contingent fund and refer it to the Finance Committee for apportionment on congregations through the Classes and Districts;

Eighth, That the treasurer or treasurers of the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church shall have charge of the funds for the contingent expenses of the General Synod; that the portion of these funds contributed by the Districts be paid to and administered by the treasurer representing the Districts, and that the portion contributed by the Classes be paid to and administered by the treasurer representing the Classes; the whole fund, however, to be applied to the necessary expenses for the conduct of the work of the General Synod;

Ninth, That the debts of the Boards that were incurred before the union of the two Churches shall be met by the respective Churches which the several Boards then represented;

Tenth, That the next regular meeting of the General Synod shall be held two years hence, at such time and place as the Synod may determine.

Respectfully submitted,

*Louis W. Goebel, Chairman
Com. of the Evangelical Synod*

*George W. Richards, Chairman
Com. of the Reformed Church in the U. S.*

These resolutions were considered, severally adopted in order and finally as a whole. It was further voted that these sets of resolutions be duplicated for distribution among the delegates.

In the matter of Secretaries and Treasurers of the New General Synod, the President ruled that it be understood that they serve on an equal basis.

The final set of Resolutions presented and adopted was the following:

III. Resolution on the Appointment and Functions of the Executive Committee

Resolved: First, That an Executive Committee be appointed composed of the President, the First Vice-President, the President of the former General Synod of the Reformed Church, the President of the former Evangelical Synod of North America, eight active pastors and eight elders or laymen. In case of the death or resignation of a member, his place shall be filled by action of the Committee with due consideration for representation of the united Churches.

Second, That the function of the Executive Committee shall be especially to promote the work of the Church and to expedite the correlation and unification of the hitherto separate agencies and activities. Until a constitution is adopted, the function of the Executive Committee for that portion of the Evangelical and Reformed Church which formerly was the Reformed Church in the United States shall be the same as the functions defined in Article 122 of the Constitution of the Reformed Church in the United States. For that portion of the Evangelical and Reformed Church which formerly was the Evangelical Synod of North America, the Executive Committee shall cooperate with the Board of Directors in harmony with authority granted said Board before the union and with the provision of the Plan of Union.

Third, That the Executive Committee may elect one or two full time secretaries. The budget for the conduct of the work of the Committee shall be regarded as part of the contingent expenses of the General Synod. The amount at the disposal of the Executive Committee shall be determined by the General Synod and shall be referred to the Finance Committee for apportionment on congregations through Districts and Classes.

Respectfully submitted,

*Louis W. Goebel, Chairman
Com. of the Evangelical Synod*

*George W. Richards, Chairman
Com. of the Reformed Church in the U. S.*

Later in the session the General Synod took the following supplemental action: *Resolved:* That the secretary or some member of each of the Boards of the General Synod shall be a member of the Committee on Correlation and Promotion of the Executive Committee.

It was further voted that nominations for the Executive Committee be referred to the Nominating Committee; that the preparation of a New Hymnal and Book of Worship be referred to the Executive Committee with power; that the appointment of a Committee on Resolutions, consisting of five members, be authorized and that the afternoon session open at 1:30 o'clock.

Synod rose to sing "Faith of Our Fathers" and "Die wir uns all hier beisammen finden." Prayer was offered by Dr. Samuel D. Press and Synod recessed until 1:30 P. M.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 27

Synod reconvened at 1:50 with the singing of familiar English and German hymns.

The following joint communication from the Evangelical Brotherhood and the Reformed Churchmen's League was presented; the resolutions were approved and referred to the Executive Committee.

THE EVANGELICAL BROTHERHOOD AND THE REFORMED CHURCHMEN'S LEAGUE

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: On this great day, when the new Church is taking on form and life, and launching out into greater activities in the kingdom of God, the men of the Church, as represented in the two authorized and active organizations of the Evangelical Brotherhood and the Reformed Churchmen's League, extend affectionate greetings and prayerful good wishes for a blessed and fruitful life.

We respectfully submit the following resolutions:

1. The men of the Church earnestly pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon your reverend body and offer to you their love and loyalty, assuring you of their sincere desire and earnest effort to cooperate heartily in whatever plans are made to prosper and to advance the work of Christ and His Church in our country and throughout the world.
2. We desire to be commissioned to continue to carry on the work among and for the men of our Church along lines approved by our two organizations and to coordinate, consolidate and cultivate the man-power of our Churches with a view to having them function actively in support and promotion of the whole program of the Church and the Kingdom.
3. We request your reverend body to give the warmest encouragement and greatest possible moral and financial support to the work among our laymen, of whom we have upward of 200,000 in our new communion, convinced of the fact that here is one of the most promising and fruitful fields of church work to which the most advanced thought and aggressive leadership should be given. Men's work should have the fullest co-operation and support of the Executive Committee in the new Church. If this work among men is wisely led, intensified and conducted on an enlarged scale, we are persuaded that it would strengthen the work of the Church on all fronts.
4. We respectfully request the privilege of appointing committees in our two organizations with the purpose of consolidating and unifying our organizations as soon as satisfactory plans shall have been worked out and approved by the two organizations, now authorized to conduct men's work in the Church, providing such action be in accord with the constitution of our Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Evangelical Brotherhood

*W. H. Witthaus, President
Wm. Hazelbeck
Dr. E. H. Hohmann
O. C. Grueninger
H. L. Streich, Secretary*

Reformed Churchmen's League

*E. S. Fretz, President
Daniel J. Snyder
George L. Omwake
William Lampe
John M. G. Darms, Secretary*

Cleveland, Ohio, June 26, 1934.

Reports from the several Boards of the United Churches were then presented in order as follows:

THE EVANGELICAL BOARD FOR HOME MISSIONS

The Board for Home Missions is giving support and supervision to 119 churches which are being served by 100 pastors. They are scattered from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Gulf to Canada. In the Atlantic seaboard area to the western boundary of Pennsylvania there are 10, in the large central area to western Nebraska 78, and from there to the Pacific coast 31. The total amount of aid given this year is approximately \$86,000. No new churches have been started in the last four years. Continuous support has been given to a few churches as long as about 25 years. Congregations considerably older than this have come back to the Board for aid after many years of fruitful strength. Records dating from 1874 show that at least 482 churches have been brought to self-support. Before this date much missionary work was done of which careful records are not available. We are probably justified in believing that fully 75 earlier churches came to self-support through the home missionary activities of the denomination. This makes a total of 557 or not quite half of the membership of the Synod in 1934.

In addition we conduct missionary work in the Ozark Mountains, among the oyster and shrimp workers on the Gulf Coast, in public hospitals and sanitariums at three cities, and among seamen at Baltimore. The Board expends \$7,450 on these projects.

The Evangelical Synod points with humble gratitude to the outstanding missionary endeavors of its early history. A good number of the fathers were conspicuous home missionaries. The whole church of those days felt very keenly the missionary responsibility toward people of like blood and creed. All its resources were hardly sufficient to meet this one need. It did not think of delegating the work to a special board, but rather made it the chief business of its administrative officers to watch for missionary opportunities and to provide ministers and financial aid wherever possible.

The vitality of that early missionary period made its influence felt very strongly in succeeding generations. It also tended to fix its limitations upon later periods. For many years the church continued to serve only such with which it felt related by blood or creed, and it continued to ward off every suggestion of establishing a board of home missions. A special treasury started in 1859 but it was administered by the Synodical officials. Finally in 1898 a Board for Home Missions was created. Quite promptly the home missionary forces led the denomination to reappraise her obligations toward the whole task of the Christianizing of America. Since then the development of the work was guided increasingly by the wider outlook, and the redeeming love of our people has been directed into one new area of need after another.

G. A. Schmidt.

THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

The Board of Home Missions of the former Reformed Church in the United States was organized in 1826 as the American Missionary Society of the German Reformed Church. It was reorganized under its present title in November, 1865, under the auspices of the General Synod which had been created in November, 1863. Thus for over a century and more, the work of Home Missions has been carried forward by the Reformed Church in an organized manner. During these years it extended its work from the Atlantic to the Pacific Coast and from Canada in the north to the sunny southland. The Board was duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania in the year 1870. Its work is divided into two main departments. The one is the General Department which takes

care of the Missions. For the sake of administration the territory is divided up into four main areas:

The Department of the East
The Department of the Central West
The Department of the Northwest
The Department of the Pacific Coast

It also takes care of promotional work, the work of Evangelism and of Social Service. It has at present 176 missions under its care which are being served by 135 missionaries and other workers. The Board ministers to six nationalities, namely: English, German, Hungarian, Czech, Japanese, Indian. It also supports a Harbor Missionary in New York City who looks after immigrants and emigrants, principally of German nationality. This department of the work is financed through the apportionment, which, according to the action of the General Synod in Akron in 1932, is \$348,786.00 annually. It is needless to state, however, that this amount of the apportionment is never fully met by the church and consequently the Board has been obliged to curtail its work greatly, to make reductions in the salaries of its missionaries and staff members and even in spite of all efforts to bring its work within the limits of its receipts, we have not been able in recent years to balance our budget. Consequently, a considerable debt has accumulated which, however, we are trying to liquidate through the so-called Mortgage-Redemption Plan, whereby we are hoping to raise at least \$300,000.00, the major portion of which has already been subscribed.

The other main department of our work is that of church building. During the years since 1886 we have built up a substantial sum of money by so-called church-building funds of \$500.00 or more. This money has been loaned on approved security to missions and to now self-supporting congregations that were formerly missions under the Board. In this way the Board of Home Missions has invested in church properties a million and a half of dollars. When its assets and liabilities are set over against each other, it will appear that the net worth of the Board is something like \$524,000.00.

I am also pleased to state that the Woman's Missionary Society of General Synod is proving a great help in the financing of our work. This organization supports practically all of our Indian work as it also provides the salaries of our deaconesses and makes contributions in the form of Church-building Funds and to the General Fund for the use of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Schaeffer, General Secretary.

STATEMENT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE FORMER EVANGELICAL SYNOD OF N. A.

BY THE REV. THEODORE R. SCHMALE, CHAIRMAN

The mission fields of the former Evangelical Synod are located in the Central Provinces of India and the north coast area of the Republic of Honduras in Central America.

The area covered by the former Evangelical Synod in the India field is approximately eleven thousand square miles while the northwest coast of Honduras and the hinterland to the depth of about one hundred miles is properly the field of our church in that land.

In India the former Evangelical Synod maintains 32 missionaries and approximately three hundred national workers. The number of missionaries in Honduras is 12 with a number of national Evangelists. In

India there are eight main stations and in Honduras three, two of which were opened during the present year. The work of the former Evangelical Synod also includes extensive educational and medical work. In India a high school for boys is maintained in the city of Raipur and fifty-two middle and primary schools have been opened in various centers. A theological seminary with nine students is located in the city of Raipur and a training school for women Evangelists has been opened in Parsabhadar.

The medical work of the church in India and Honduras is important. The foreign mission hospital is located at Tilda, India, and is in charge of an American doctor and American nurses with the necessary staff of Indian medical workers of various types.

The church contributes largely to the work of the Mission to Lepers at Chandkuri where a leper hospital and dispensary is maintained by this organization but of which the former Evangelical Synod supplies the American superintendent, doctor and nurses at its own expense. In the hospital and dispensaries of the Indian field 60,827 patients received treatment in 1933. The India Christian Community of our Indian missions numbers 5,326 of whom 3,235 are communicant members. Two of the congregations of the Indian mission field are entirely self-supporting and self-governing and it is the desire of the Board of Foreign Missions to bring about an even greater participation of nationals in the affairs of the church and the mission both in India and Honduras. The entire missionary district which is the organization of the India church engages in home missionary work in the native state of Phingeshwar.

The Board of Foreign Missions of the former Evangelical Synod of North America owes a deep debt of gratitude to the Evangelical Women's Union for its splendid help in promoting and providing the cost of foreign missionary projects. This women's organization of the former Evangelical Synod of North America has contributed the funds for an extensive enlargement of the high school for boys in Raipur, has built a bungalow for women missionaries at Parsabhadar and has lately erected a whole memorial missions station to the late Mrs. Katherine Goetsch at Chandrapur.

This national women's organization has also provided the funds so that the new station of Yoro in Honduras could be opened during the present year.

STATEMENT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE REFORMED CONSTITUENCY OF THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH

BY REV. A. V. CASSELMAN, D.D., Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States

The foreign mission work of the Reformed Church was inaugurated by the organization of the Board of Foreign Missions in 1838. Our first foreign mission work was carried on under the American Board in Turkey. Later the Reformed Church joined the German Evangelical Missionary Society of the United States, composed of several denominations. This Society sent the Rev. Oscar Lohr and the Rev. Jacob Hauser to India and founded the mission at Bisrampur. Of special interest today is the fact that this is now the mission of the Evangelical Synod of North America and in this union the Reformed Church is coming back to its first missionary work. At the present time the Reformed Church has missions in Japan, China and Mesopotamia, with a missionary personnel of seventy-eight.

The missionary work in Japan dates from 1878, where we now have 45 missionaries. Associated with them are 248 Japanese workers, divided as follows: ordained evangelists 36; unordained evangelists 35; men teachers 91; women teachers 21; women evangelists 21; kindergartners 22;

other workers 22. Our mission in Japan is an organic part of the "Church of Christ in Japan," a union of all the Presbyterian and Reformed Churches, which has assigned to the Reformed Church in the United States a portion of the field around Tokyo and the six northern states of Japan, known as the "Tohoku". In our particular work of the Church of Christ in Japan we have 52 organized churches, 108 other places of meeting, 6,798 communicant members, 146 Sunday schools, 10,633 Sunday school pupils, one theological seminary, two boarding schools, and 10 kindergartens. The North Japan College is our school for young men with a faculty of 88 and a student body of over one thousand, the graduates numbering 2,486. In the Miyagi College for women there are 43 teachers and 374 students, its graduates numbering 1,316.

The work of the China Mission was begun in 1900 in the central province of Hunan. There are two organized mission stations, one in the city of Yochow in the eastern portion of the province and the other in the city of Shenchow in the west, where we are now represented by 27 missionaries. Associated with these missionaries are the following Chinese workers: ordained evangelists 5; unordained evangelists 34; men teachers 65; women teachers 16; women evangelists 18; physicians 2; nurses 6, a total of 146. Our mission in China is an organic part of the "Church of Christ in China," a union of sixteen denominations and the largest Protestant Church in China. In connection with our China Mission there are 7 organized churches, 30 other meeting places, 747 communicant members, 19 Sunday schools, enrolling 1,047 pupils; one theological seminary; 4 boarding schools with 601 students; 14 day schools with 537 pupils; 2 kindergartens; 5 hospitals and dispensaries which treated last year 742 in-patients and 20,462 dispensary patients. At Yochow are located Huping Private High School for Boys and Ziemer Memorial Girls' School. At Shenchow are located Eastview Boys' School and Chenteh Girls' School. Our Church also cooperates with five union educational institutions: Central China Union Theological Seminary, Central China College, Yali Union High School for Boys, Fuhsiang Union High School for Girls' and Ginling College. Hoy Memorial Hospital is located at Yochow and Abounding Grace Hospital at Shenchow.

In Mesopotamia, or Iraq, as it is known officially, we are a part of the United Mission in Mesopotamia where we have two missionaries who are associated with 4 ordained evangelists, 7 unordained evangelists and 7 women teachers. There are two organized churches and 11 other places of meeting, 295 communicant members, 3 Sunday schools with 172 pupils. The Reformed Church also operates the American School for Boys at Baghdad where there are 4 missionaries, 17 teachers and 420 students.

The value of our mission property in these three fields is \$2,163,051.00.

In all of our missionary work the Woman's Missionary Society of General Synod has been a constant aid and inspiration. Since its organization in 1877 the Society has contributed to the Board of Foreign Missions over one million dollars.

REPORT OF THE ACTIONS OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARDS OF FOREIGN MISSIONS OF THE EVANGELICAL SYNOD OF N. A. AND THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE U. S.

Pursuant to the action taken at a meeting of a Joint Committee representing the two Boards, in the Hotel Carter, Cleveland, Ohio, June 14, 1934, a Joint Meeting of the Boards of Foreign Missions of the Evangelical Synod of North America and the Reformed Church in the United States was held at Cleveland, Ohio, June 25, at 2 P. M.

The meeting was called to order by the Secretary of the Joint Committee and was organized by the election of the Presidents of the two Mission Boards, Rev. T. R. Schmale and Rev. C. E. Creitz, as Co-Chairmen and Rev. A. V. Casselman as Secretary. Rev. Mr. Schmale presided the first half of the meeting and Dr. Creitz the last half.

The following actions were taken:

THAT the principles and policies of each Board, as now constituted, be continued for such a period of time as may be required to prepare our constituencies for necessary adjustments and changes, and that contact with them as now established, shall be retained until the complete merger of the two Boards can be realized.

THAT the personnel of the Boards be retained as at present until a new Board of Foreign Missions may be elected by the General Synod of the merged bodies.

THAT we recommend to our Boards that three representatives from each Board, in addition to the Executive Secretary of each Board, be appointed or elected to attend the annual and semi-annual meetings of the other Board.

THAT a Joint Commission of the Boards of Foreign Missions be formed consisting of four members of each Board, including the Executive Secretaries, elected or appointed by each Board, which shall convene after the annual meetings of both Boards, and at such other times as may be necessary, for the purpose of the correlation of the work of the two Boards, and the cultivation of our constituencies by disseminating information and promoting interest in the whole missionary program of the United Church; and that the secretary of this committee be instructed to arrange for the organization meeting of this Commission, the regular meetings of which shall be held in June.

THAT, for the sake of economy, the Board and Commission meetings be held geographically central to the constituency of the United Church.

THAT the Commission shall be authorized to make suggestions to the Committee on Constitution, relative to the policies and functions of the United Board.

THAT we recommend to the Joint Commission the interchange of secretaries and furloughed missionaries in churches, conferences, and summer schools, during the period of transition.

THAT a handbook of information concerning the missionary operations of the United Church be published for educational purposes, and that the expenses of this publication be shared equally by each Board; and that in addition to the handbook, informative leaflets be printed for free distribution, the character of the leaflets to be determined by the Joint Commission.

THAT we recommend that the name of the Board of the United Church be "The Board of International Missions."

THAT we recommend that the new Board shall consist of fifteen members, seven of whom shall be ministers, and twelve of whom shall be elected by the Synod, the remaining three to be elected by the Board. We recommend also that women shall be eligible to and included in the membership of the Board of the United Church.

THAT a Joint Committee, composed of Rev. F. A. Goetsch, Rev. G. Siegenthaler, Mrs. Ida Pauley, Dr. A. V. Casselman, Dr. W. F. Kosman, and Mrs. L. L. Anewalt, be appointed to study the whole program of monthly and quarterly missionary periodical literature and make recommendations to the Joint Commission in the interest of the United Church.

THAT the Secretary of this Joint Meeting be instructed to send a written report of its actions to the General Synod of the United Church.

A. V. Casselman, Secretary.

The foregoing reports were severally adopted and instruction given to include them in the printed Minutes.

By special motion the actions of the Joint Meeting of the Boards of Foreign Missions were referred to the Executive Committee.

The Committee on Nominations next made report to the General Synod. The report was adopted seriatim and finally as a whole. The nominees were declared elected to serve on the several Committees as follows:

COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS ELECTED BY THE GENERAL SYNOD

Executive Committee: Revs. George W. Richards, Louis W. Goebel, Henry J. Christman, Paul Press, Melvin E. Beck, John Lentz, Paul R. Pontius, Claudius J. Snyder, F. C. Klick, F. R. Daries, J. E. Digel, H. J. Schick; Elders Clarence E. Zimmerman, J. Franklin Meyer, Charles S. Adams, Mrs. F. William Leich, W. H. Brown, Fred G. Rapp, Jacob Haller, and Mrs. Ida Pauley.

Committee on Constitution: Revs. Chas. E. Schaeffer, Theo. F. Herman, Edgar F. Hoffmeier, Wm. E. Lampe, Paul J. Dundore, Paul Grosshuesch, Frederick Frankenfeld, F. R. Schreiber, H. W. Dinkmeyer, Arno E. Klick, Gerhard W. Grauer; Elders Reuben A. Butz, Esq., David I. Prugh, Esq., John W. Mueller, Esq., W. C. Hazelbeck, Esq., Henry W. Schultheis, Esq. (It was also agreed that the President of General Synod shall be an ex-officio member of this Committee, and Dr. Charles E. Schaeffer shall acts as Convener.)

Judicial Commission: Revs. Paul S. Leinbach, F. W. Leich, E. G. Homrighausen, Richard Rettig, J. Otto Reller, Henry Niefer, A. B. Gaebe; Elders Charles A. Weiser, Samuel E. Basehore, Charles Wilke, Louis Brandt.

Overtures: Revs. Alfred N. Sayers, Klaus J. Stuebbe, Timothy Lehmann; Elders E. H. Hohman, Edward Wehrli.

Finance Committee: Revs. Wm. F. Mehl, J. P. Meyer, Theodore C. Brown, Harlan J. Miller; Elders A. L. Leonard, C. E. Striker, John F. Peters.

Resolutions: Revs. Geo. L. Roth, J. Kern McKee, Theo. Schmale; Elders C. C. Busch, John H. Eisenhauer.

(The above named new Executive Committee met after the adjournment of the General Synod and organized by electing President Richards as Chairman and Revs. Wm. E. Lampe and H. P. Vieth as Secretaries.)

The Stated Clerk reported a series of sixteen Overtures referred or addressed to the New General Synod and the same were referred to its Committee on Overtures.

The reference to the Contingent Fund needs, in the seventh resolution of the Report on the Conduct of Work until the Adoption of a New Constitution, was, by special motion, referred directly to the Finance Committee.

Reports of the Boards of Christian Education and of Publications were made by Dr. Henry I. Stahr for the Reformed Church and by Rev. T. A. Haefele for the Evangelical Synod adopted and referred to the Stated Clerk for record as follows:

THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

The Board of Christian Education of what was formerly the Reformed Church in the United States is the direct successor of several former Boards of this Church which were organized from time to time to undertake special responsibilities.

The first of these was the Board of Publication, organized by the General Synod in 1844 to be the denominational publishing house and to serve as the Church's printing establishment. Forty-three years later, in 1887, the Sunday School Board of the Reformed Church was established to have general executive oversight over Sunday school work. In 1912 these two boards were merged into what came to be known thenceforth as the Publication and Sunday School Board. In 1923 still another Board was constituted by the General Synod and named the Board of Christian Education to function in an advisory relationship to the educational institutions of the Church and to concern itself particularly with the training of the future leadership of the Church. In 1929 this last-named board was merged with the Publication and Sunday School Board under the charter of the latter Board, and is now known as "The Board of Christian Education."

This Board has been serving as the denominational publication board and publishes the weekly Church paper THE REFORMED CHURCH MESSENGER, issues the Almanac and Year Book, publishes the Church school periodicals and illustrated story papers and prints and distributes hymnals, catechisms, books and pamphlets, and other publications. Familiarly known as "The Board That Cares for the Children" it furnishes oversight, leadership and guidance in church school work. It has a cooperative relationship with the Church's educational institutions and has been charged with special responsibilities in young people's and student work and in the training of the future leadership of the Church. It also serves the Church by maintaining a book store and church supply business and operates the Schaff Building at 1505 Race St., Philadelphia.

In its administrative organization the Board functions in three departments:

1. THE DEPARTMENT OF HOME AND CHURCH

This department has been primarily responsible for the denominational program of Christian Education in relation to the home and the local congregation. The work of the department is planned on the age group basis to meet the religious needs of growing individuals at each stage of development and is carried along on the following age group lines:

- a. Children's work
- b. Young People's work
- c. Adult work

Editorial work is conceived of as inseparably related to the entire educational program of the Board.

2. THE DEPARTMENT OF LEADERSHIP TRAINING

In relation to the local congregation the program of this department involves assisting the preparation of an adequately trained leadership for every phase of the Church's many-sided activities. The Board also has a cooperative relationship with the Church's higher institutions of learning, which have been Synodically controlled with the exception of one institution which is under the control of a Classis. Student work is also carried on in certain centers in behalf of Reformed Church students attending other than the Church's own educational institutions.

3. THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND REAL ESTATE

This department is responsible for the oversight of publication activities, retail and wholesale sales, accounting, etc. The Board does not operate a denominational printing plant but has all its printing done commercially.

The Board is incorporated and in it is vested the ownership of the denominational headquarters building, the Schaff Building at 1505 Race

St., Philadelphia. This building is a 13-story office building, of which approximately three floors have been used by Reformed Church agencies. The remainder of the building is offered for general tenancy. Fortunately the Schaff Building is 98% rented at the present time. It represents an investment of \$1,094,965.68 and carries a mortgage of \$475,000.

The Central Publishing House, Cleveland, Ohio, an institution owned by the Ohio Synod, the Mid-West Synod and the Synod of the Northwest, serves the western depository of the Board of Christian Education within the territory of these three Synods.

Respectfully submitted,
June 27, 1934. *Henry I. Stahr, Executive Secretary.*

THE BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

According to the constitution of the Evangelical Synod of North America, the Board of Publications is responsible for the *publication of periodicals and books* as directed by the General Conference to which it is amenable. It has also been entrusted with the task of promoting the *sale of religious literature* through our synodical printshop, the Eden Publishing House.

The Board comprises two subcommittees: The Literary Committee and the Board of Trustees of Eden Publishing House.

Executives directly responsible to the Board of Publications are: The editors of the Evangelical Herald, Friedensbote, and Theological Magazine, and the General Manager of Eden Publishing House.

The work of the Literary Committee is advisory, censorial and creative, that of the Board of Trustees of Eden Publishing House administrative and executive.

Viewing the work of the Board of Publications, its subcommittees and executives, means viewing the work of Eden Publishing House where ideas and ideals reach concrete form.

Eden Publishing House consists of three main departments: subscription, merchandise and printing. A branch is located at Chicago, Ill.

REGARDING OUR FINANCIAL STATUS

Time hardly permits any details statement. The following round figures may suffice:	
Fixed Assets (after deducting depreciation)	\$355,000.00
Accounts receivable	32,000.00
Merchandise on hand	91,000.00
Cash in banks	34,000.00
Deeds of trust on old Synod Building	16,500.00*
The Synodical treasury owes us	85,000.00*
	\$613,500.00

* For which we hold promissory notes.

Liabilities consist of	
First mortgage 5% real estate bonds	\$200,000.00
Loans payable	13,000.00
	\$213,000.00
Net worth	\$400,500.00

*Theo. A. Haefele, Chairman
J. P. Hennings, General Manager*

Reports of the Board of Ministerial Relief were made by Rev. Silas Bittner for the Evangelical Synod and by Dr. J. W. Meminger for the Reformed Church, and adopted as follows:

RESUME OF THE WORK OF THE BOARD OF PENSIONS AND RELIEF—EVANGELICAL SYNOD OF N. A.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

The Pension Fund of the Evangelical Synod is the outgrowth of the former "Invalidenkasse" of the Synod, an organization which was sponsored by the pastors of the Synod to take care of needy aged pastors and worthy pastor's widows. It served its purpose well but because of very limited funds and uncertain income never achieved the desired satisfaction which might have come if it had been organized along more business-like lines. So in 1910 the General Conference called into being the "Pension and Relief Fund," taking over the meager assets of the "Kasse" and building up an organization which would have definite aims and assure the members of an established system of pensions. The administration of the Fund was placed in the hands of a board composed of nine members, all elected by the General Conference in the ratio of five pastors and four laymen. This Board organizes itself into officers and an executive committee and carries on the work of the Fund. The fund has never had any full time workers; only the treasurer receives a small gratification for his work. The most of the work is carried on by the chairman of the Board, who has always been a pastor in active services. Consequently there has been very little administration expense and the Board can justly say that practically ninety-nine cents of every dollar turned over to it for the work of pension and relief has gone to the recipients of the Fund in pensions and relief.

The Fund has an active membership today of 939 pastors, 11 teachers, 7 commissioned workers and 18 women missionaries. Since the last Conference in 1933 commissioned workers have no longer been eligible to membership. This Conference also made membership in the Fund mandatory, so that now every pastor in the Synod, still eligible by age, must become a member of the Fund. Already thirty new members have joined the Fund since the first of the year. Premiums of members are determined by age at the time of admission into membership of the Fund and continue annually until retirement, death, or fully paid-up membership of forty-three years. There are no assessments of any kind.

Pension is paid upon retirement at the age of sixty-five or previous incapacitation. It begins with the sum of \$212.00 per year to the present maximum sum of \$350.00 per year and is determined by the number of years of membership the individual has in the Fund at the time of incapacitation or retirement. We pay no death benefits. A widow receives eighty per cent of her husband's pension or eighty per cent of the amount he would have received at the time of his death. In addition to the pension the Fund also pays relief. This is done in cases where the amount of the pension is not sufficient to enable the recipients to meet the demands of life. The relief funds come directly through the budget allotment of the Synod. In 1934 the Fund will pay out approximately \$81,217 in pensions and \$22,202 in relief, a total of \$103,519 to 150 pastors, 247 widows and 20 children.

The income of the Fund is derived from the following sources: (1) the annual premiums of the members; (2) the interest from the endowment fund; (3) the specified allotment of the Synodical budget (\$60,000 in 1934); (4) \$10,000 from the profits of Eden Publishing House. (This has not been paid for the last two years but becomes an obligation as soon as the profits of the Publishing House so warrant.)

Beginning with the small sum of \$6,000.00 which was left them by the original "Kasse" the Fund has today gathered an Endowment Fund of \$885,877.00 and an additional reserve fund of \$52,500.00; a total endow-

ment fund of \$938,377.00. This money is not handled by the Pension Board but according to instructions of the General Conference has been turned over to the Board of Endowment and Trust Funds, who administer it for the Fund and regularly pay the Fund the interest. About one-third of this money was gathered at the time of the Pension Campaign, although there are about \$80,000 in campaign pledges still to be paid.

One of the most commendable pieces of work of the Fund was the establishment of two retired pastors' homes. One is located at Blue Springs, Mo., just outside of Kansas City, and consists of ten individual cottages and one duplex. The other is just outside of Chicago at Bensenville, Ill., and consists of 4 individual cottages and one duplex. These homes are furnished the retired pastor or the pastor's widow free of charge. With each home is usually a garden spot. All of the homes are modern with the exception of six at Blue Springs and with the assurance of a village water system in the near future it will not be long until all of the homes will have all the conveniences of the city. Although administered by the Pension Board, the property of the Homes has been turned over to the Synod. Truly this is a really delightful part of the work of this Board to be able to make the sunset of life more pleasant by granting to these aged pastors or their widows a modest cottage amidst ideal surroundings in which to spend the closing years of life.

The present membership of the Board is composed as follows: Rev. Silas P. Bittner, Kansas City, Mo., Chairman; Dr. E. H. Hohman, Chicago, Ill., Vice-Chairman; Rev. A. Dreusicke, Hinsdale, Ill., Secretary; Rev. H. Wintermeyer, Granite City, Ill., Treasurer; Pastor E. F. Abele, Sedalia, Mo., E. Jaeger, East St. Louis, Ill.; laymen: Mr. A. Dittmann, Chicago, Ill.; Mr. F. G. Rapp, Columbia, Ill.; Mr. F. F. Ruehlmann, Cincinnati, O.

The executive committee of this Board has met in session with the executive committee of the Pension Board of the Reformed Church and together we have discussed the coordination of our work in this great field. We feel confident that the work can be satisfactorily merged not in any hasty manner but slowly and effectively, safeguarding the interests of all the members of both funds and yet at the same time looking into the future toward greater achievements in the work of ministerial pensions.

Respectfully submitted,

Silas P. Bittner, Chairman.

Submitted to the Conference, Cleveland, Ohio, June 27, 1934.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MINISTERIAL RELIEF OF THE REFORMED CHURCH

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

Ministerial Relief in the Reformed Church dates back to 1752, when four pounds in our money was given to a minister's widow. For almost 200 years the good work has gone steadily forward.

Societies and groups of ministers in different Synods banded together to help the aged and disabled ministers and their widows.

In almost all cases the relief was inadequate until in 1905 the General Synod elected the Board of Ministerial Relief. The societies were gradually merged with the Board. The entire denomination was back of Ministerial Relief, and a better day dawned for those in declining years.

Funds for our Relief department are provided by an apportionment. We are now caring for 88 ministers and 174 widows in this department, and 136 in the Sustentation Pension Department.

During the 29 years of the Board's history the Church has contributed \$1,754,961.18 for Ministerial Relief. With this as a working capital the

Board earned and added to the capital of the Board \$626,800.30, making cash receipts of \$2,381,761.48 to December 31, 1933.

The overhead expenses of the Board averaged \$5,407.51 per year. All the officers bear a part of their own expenses. Not one dollar given by the Church for Relief has ever been used for expenses. The expenses were paid out of money made on the sale of bonds or interest on the invested funds.

The total assets of the Board on December 31, 1933, were \$1,433,998.25, of which \$1,431,712.84 were investments and \$2,285.41 were cash in bank.

During the past forty years I have known most of the young men entering college, looking forward to the gospel ministry. Young men have come with a splendid background, born with the inherited sense of leadership, developing forceful personalities, men who would be masters in any field; but as the college years went by, they learned of the sacrifices that the preacher must make, the difficulties that they must face, the inadequate provision made for ministers and their families in old age, and they were lost to the Church. This fact is the strongest appeal I know for the completion of our pension funds.

Both Churches have pension plans. Neither one is perfect. Adjustments must be made. With our experience a stronger and better plan can be developed, that will appeal to preacher and people alike.

We have conferred with members of the Board of the Evangelical Church. They are most courteous Christian gentlemen. I am sure that we can get together and produce something larger and finer than anything that either Church has known. This is our united aim and this will be accomplished.

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Meminger, Secretary.

A report from the Board of Religious Education of the Evangelical Synod was made by Prof. A. Wehrli and adopted as follows:

REPORT FOR THE BOARD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OF THE EVANGELICAL SYNOD

The Board of Religious Education of the Evangelical Synod has no report to make on real estate or the great amount of properties held whose value can be assessed in terms of so many hundreds of thousands of dollars. Consequently therefore it likewise has no information to offer nor any burdens to impose on the United Church in terms of mortgages, debts, et cetera.

The Board in question is not only happy over the latter fact but neither does it cherish any regrets over the former. It conceives its contribution to the life of the new church in terms of a spirit, and herewith bequeaths that spirit to the Christian work that lies ahead for the new communion.

Its activities have been detailed and comprehensive in many specific enterprises, but the direction of its efforts has been the espousal and the release of an eternal religion into the ever changing life-forms of our time. Its major resistances within the institution of the church have been developed against the processes of petrifaction, that perennial tendency of all institutional life, which, while it increases reverence for religion, at the same time stultifies religion and renders it sissified.

That is the tradition and the objective which the Board of Religious Education of the Evangelical Synod brings to the Union; and opportunity for growing effort in that direction is what it asks of the new church.

On special motion the Reports of the Boards and the Blue Book of the Reformed Church in the U. S. were officially referred to the Stated Clerks

and they were requested to publish the minutes of the denominational meetings and of the New General Synod in one volume.

On special motion the appointment of the representatives to the Faith and Order World Conference in 1937 was referred to the Executive Committee.

The Committee on Overtures next presented its report through Chairman, Rev. Alfred N. Sayres, as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON OVERTURES

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

Your Committee on Overtures has received and considered the following communications:

1. An overture from Lancaster Classis to change the name of the Sustentation Fund of the Board of Ministerial Relief.

We recommend that it be referred to the Committee on Constitution.

2. Overture from the Synod of the Mid-West requesting formulation of an amendment to the constitution making it possible for District Synods to elect members to represent them on the Boards of the Church.

Same reference.

3. Overtures from Synod of the Northwest and Sheboygan Classis requesting this General Synod to attend to it that in the Evangelical and Reformed Church the Heidelberg Catechism be retained for the former Reformed congregations as heretofore.

Same reference.

4. Identical overtures from the Minnesota, Ursinus and Eureka Classes asking certain permissions with reference to ministers, missionaries, the Mission House and the Presbyterial form of government.

Same reference.

5. Overture from Ohio Synod asking that a claim for exemption from military service for all conscientious objectors be incorporated into the new constitution.

Same reference.

6. Overture from East Ohio Classis requesting that a system be wrought out giving definite authority for the placing of ministers.

Same reference.

7. A communication from a joint session of the Women's Union and the Woman's Missionary Society of General Synod, containing:

(a) A proposed resolution approving a joint commission formulated by them for the unification of their work.

We recommend the adoption of this resolution of approval.

(b) A request for representation with vote and voice from both Women's Boards in all denominational boards of the new Church.

We recommend reference to the Committee on Constitution.

(c) A request that both Women's Boards be represented on the Committee to draw up a new constitution.

We recommend that we reply with regret that this request was received after final action had been taken.

8. A request from the joint session of the Executive Committees of the Home Mission agencies of uniting Churches concerning the composition and functions of the Home Mission agencies pending the adoption of a new constitution.

We recommend that this be marked "attended to" by resolutions already adopted at this session.

9. Overture from Lancaster Classis concerning Militarism and Military Service.

We recommend reference to the Executive Committee.

10. A communication from the World Calendar Association, Inc., concerning Easter stabilization and general calendar reform.

Same reference.

11. Overture from the Southwest Ohio Classis reiterating its request for the enlargement of the Commission on Closer Relations and Church Union.

Same reference.

12. An overture from the World Conference on Faith and Order requesting appointment of three representatives to the 1937 World Conference.

We recommend that it be marked "attended to."

13. Overtures from Sheboygan and Nebraska Classes requesting that relations with the Federal Council be discontinued.

We recommend reference to Executive Committee.

14. Two invitations for the next meeting of General Synod:

(a) From Zion's Reformed Church, York, Pa.

(b) From St. John's Reformed Church, Ft. Wayne, Ind., endorsed by the Ft. Wayne Classis.

We recommend that General Synod decide for itself which of these two invitation it will accept.

15. Overture from the Board of Christian Education on the Observance of National Sunday School Teachers' Recognition Day on October 6, 1934.

We recommend favorable reference to the Board of Religious Education and the Board of Christian Education.

16. A resolution denouncing harmful motion pictures and calling upon the constituency of the new Church to avoid patronage of the same.

We recommend reference to the Executive Committee.

Rev. A. N. Sayres

Rev. K. J. Stuebbe

Rev. T. Lehmann

Elder E. H. Hohman

Elder E. J. H. Werle

Action was taken on the foregoing report, seriatim as follows:

Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 were adopted and referred as recommended to the Committee on Constitution.

Item 7 (a). The resolution approving a Joint Commission was adopted.

(b) Was referred to the Committee on Constitution.

(c) the recommendation of the Committee on Overtures was adopted.

Items 8 and 12 were ordered marked "attended to" in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee.

Items 9, 10, 11, 13 and 16 were referred to the Executive Committee.

Item 14 was referred as recommended directly to the General Synod. Following a brief presentation of the advantages offered by each of the two congregations, a rising vote was taken. The result was 63 votes for

Zion Reformed Church, York, Pa., and 92 for St. John's Church, Ft. Wayne, Ind. Synod, on motion of Dr. J. Kern McKee, pastor of Zion's Church, York, Pa., voted the selection of St. John's Church, Ft. Wayne, Ind., be made unanimous.

Item 15 was favorably recommended to the Boards of Religious Education and of Christian Education respectively.

The Report of the Committee on Overtures was finally adopted as a whole.

The date for the next meeting of the General Synod in 1936 was referred by special motion to the Executive Committee.

Prior to the close of the session the General Synod adopted the following: Resolved: That the Executive Committee of the Evangelical and Reformed Churches be empowered to determine the costs necessary to carry on the work of administration of the Executive Committee and to pro-rate these costs to the respective groups with the proviso, however, that all possible economy be exercised.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions was read and adopted as follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

As this, the first meeting of the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church draws to a close we are mindful of the light and leading which has been present.

The Eternal Spirit has manifested the fruits of the years of fervent brooding on the unity of the Body of Christ.

Gratefully do we make record of the individuals who on the Committee on Union have built their lengthened forms and shadows into the nearer stature of Christ. Their labors have been manifest too in the orderly procedure of this Synod.

We are deeply indebted to the Rev. Theo. Kitterer for his interpretation of the event to the newspapers. For the intelligent and generous publicity of the Public Press we express our thanks.

The Rev. and Mrs. Oscar E. Wittlinger and the members of Zion Church have accorded us every creature comfort. They secured the co-operation of the Cleveland Convention Board and other local agencies. That many services at our disposal were inconspicuous makes us even more eager to assure them of our appreciation.

The Local Ministers' Association of 40 Evangelical and Reformed ministers through a Committee consisting of the Revs. Philip Vollmer, Emil Krafft and Theo. C. Honold helped to give a lasting conception of fellowship to the Holy Communion.

The chorus choir of Zion Church under the direction of Mrs. Naomi Harding, likewise, gave reassuring evidence of the power of worship to make new the souls who bow in the place where God dwelleth. To them and the countless unnamed who gave time and talent to the successful establishment of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, we express our thanks.

With bowed hearts we breathe the name of Him, whose sign we bear, giving gratitude and making firm resolution that we shall ever remember what God hath wrought and with what signal unanimity we would do his works.

Respectfully submitted,
George L. Roth
J. Kern McKee
Theodore R. Schmale
Dr. C. C. Busch
John H. Eisenhauer

FRATERNAL GREETINGS

The following letters and telegrams, previously noted in the Minutes as having been presented to the First General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, are here entered as supplemental matter for historic record:

1. From the President of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

To the Commission on Church Union
The Rev. George W. Richards, D.D., Chairman.

Dear Friends: I want you to know how profoundly I am interested in the step which is being taken this year in union of the Evangelical Synod of N. A. and the Reformed Church in the United States. It is one of those steps which all of us, who are interested in church union and in the larger fraternities of the Kingdom, watch with very deep interest.

There are a good many evidences that the spirit of good-will and of coming together is growing in our midst. I congratulate you and all those who have worked toward this end, and only wish that I might have been present myself to speak a word for the Federal Council of the Churches.

May God bless you all in the new fraternity and make it a source of ever increasing blessing to all concerned in the cause of the Master across the world.

Yours fraternally,
Albert W. Beaven.

2. From the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.
Dr. George W. Richards
Zion Church, Branch and West 14 Sts., Cleveland, Ohio.

Regret that three delegates, appointed in turn to extend greetings of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., to the Evangelical and Reformed Church, have found it impossible to attend meeting tomorrow. We rejoice in the union that has been consummated and pray that it may mark the beginning of those greater things promised by Him who is the head of the Church and may move toward the fulfilment of His petition that we all may be one.

*J. Ross Stevenson, Chairman
Lewis Seymour Mudge Secretary*

3. From the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.
Dr. George W. Richards.

Recognizing the need of closer Christian unity and a desire to have fellowship with Christians everywhere, the Church of the United Brethren in Christ is happy to extend fraternal greetings to your Body through our official and properly appointed representative, Rev. E. F. Wegner.

We pray God's blessing upon you and wish you continued success in your great work.

*Henry H. Fout, Senior Bishop
A. R. Clippinger, Secretary, Board of Bishops.*

4. From Mrs. C. W. Locher and family.
Rev. Paul Press, President.

We pray God's choicest blessings upon our beloved Evangelical Synod and its General Conference now convening in special session. May the Lord who called our Church into being and who has led it through the

years guide us into fields of larger services as together with the members of the Reformed Church we enter upon this new spiritual adventure.

Mrs. C. W. Locher and family.

5. From the Lone Star E. L. T. S. Meeting.

Rev. Paul Press, Zion Evangelical Church,
West 14th St. and Branch Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

The students and staff of the Lone Star E. L. T. S., meeting in Waco, Texas, with the largest attendance in the history of the school, send greetings to the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and pledge to their Church their love and support.

Theo. C. Braun, Director.

6. From the American Bible Society.

The Rev. J. Rauch Stein, D.D., Stated Clerk
United General Synod, Zion Evangelical Church, Cleveland, O.

The American Bible Society extends its heartiest congratulations to the officers and delegates commissioned to effect the union between the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America. May our Lord's great prayer for unity among His followers find a happy answer in your notable merger and may the benediction of the great body of the Church rest upon the life and ministry of the United Body.

*George William Brown
Eric M. North
General Secretaries.*

7. From the Methodist Episcopal Church.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN: It was my privilege to announce to my congregation last Sunday morning the prospective union of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod in connection with which I have been honored as the fraternal delegate from the the Methodist Episcopal denomination.

Our people were greatly interested in the announcement and rose as a congregation in expression of their felicitation and their desire that I convey their greetings and good wishes to your newly formed church.

We pray God's abundant blessing upon your new endeavor and assure you that this additional evidence of the essential oneness of Evangelical Protestantism is an occasion of great joy to us.

With kindest respects, believe me

Very sincerely,

W. W. T. Duncan.

8. From the Protestant Episcopal Church.

The Rev. Louis N. Goebel
2135 N. Sawyer Ave., Chicago, Ill.

My dear Dr. Goebel: Bishop Rogers asked me to represent the Episcopal Church at the meeting of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. I am writing to offer my apology for not having attended the first General Synod held in Cleveland, Wednesday, June 27. I was unexpectedly called out of the city for a few days but thought that I could return in ample time to be present. I regret exceedingly that I could not do so and I sincerely hope that you will inform the members of the newly formed Church of the interest of this Communion.

Very truly yours,

William C. Munds.

9. From the General Conventus of the Magyar Reformed Church assembled in Budapest.

Dear Dr. Christman, President:

We were very glad to learn that the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America are to be united at the Synod to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, June 26 and 27, 1934.

We are convinced that the fathers and brethren of the Synod will find the most successful ways to strengthen the Church of Jesus Christ, advancing with united forces and with a more nearly perfect service for His cause.

Praying for the blessing of the Almighty upon you, dear Dr. Christman, and upon all the members of the uniting Synods, we ask you to let them know of our brotherly congratulations and warmest good-will.

With kindest regards, we are, in the name of the General Conventus,

Yours, very sincerely,

*Desiderious Baltazar, Bishop
Eugen de Balogh, Chief Curator*

HYMN TO THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH

The following new hymn, prepared in contemplation of the union of the Evangelical Synod of North America and the Reformed Church in the United States, was sung during the session of these two bodies in Cleveland, Ohio.

AWAKE, O CHURCH UNITED

Awake, O Church united,
Behold your new-born day!
Full-clad in God's own armor,
Go forth to fight and pray.
Against the Church of Jesus,
'Gainst nations bleeding sore,
The legion hosts of Satan
Are set in world-wide war.

Awake, O Church united!
Redemption's day has come;
Today the hard-fought battle,
Tomorrow comes the song.
Let prayer and intercession
Like holy incense rise,
While new-born consecration
Unites in sacrifice.

Awake, O Church united!
Like one great army go,
Let every line and sector
Full-armored face the foe.
Hold high the Cross of Jesus,
Rich days of service bring;
'Till all the world shall worship
The Christ, our Lord and King.

Ambrose M. Schmidt, D.D.

Tune, Webb.

ADJOURNMENT

Pending a motion to adjourn, the Minutes were read by the Stated Clerk and adopted.

The Roll Clerks reported the presence of a quorum, consisting of 50 ministers and 31 laymen of the Evangelical Synod, and 83 ministers and 81 elders of the Reformed Church.

At 4:30 P. M., Wednesday, June 27, A.D., 1934, the members of the General Synod gathered at the chancel for the closing service which followed the reading and adoption of the Minutes and the final Roll Call. They united in confessing their faith through the Apostles' Creed, prayed the Lord's Prayer together and ended with singing the Doxology.

The President then pronounced the Apostolic Benediction and declared the General Synod adjourned to meet in its next Sessions in St. John's Reformed Church, Ft. Wayne, Ind., in A.D. 1936. The exact date and hour are to be determined by the Executive Committee of the General Synod.

*George Warren Richards, President
James Rauch Stein, Stated Clerk
Frederick A. Meusch, Associate Stated Clerk.*

Official copy from the original Minutes.

*James Rauch Stein, Stated Clerk
Frederick A. Meusch, Associate Stated Clerk.*

Schaff Bldg., 1505 Race St.
Philadelphia, Pa., July 16, 1934.

